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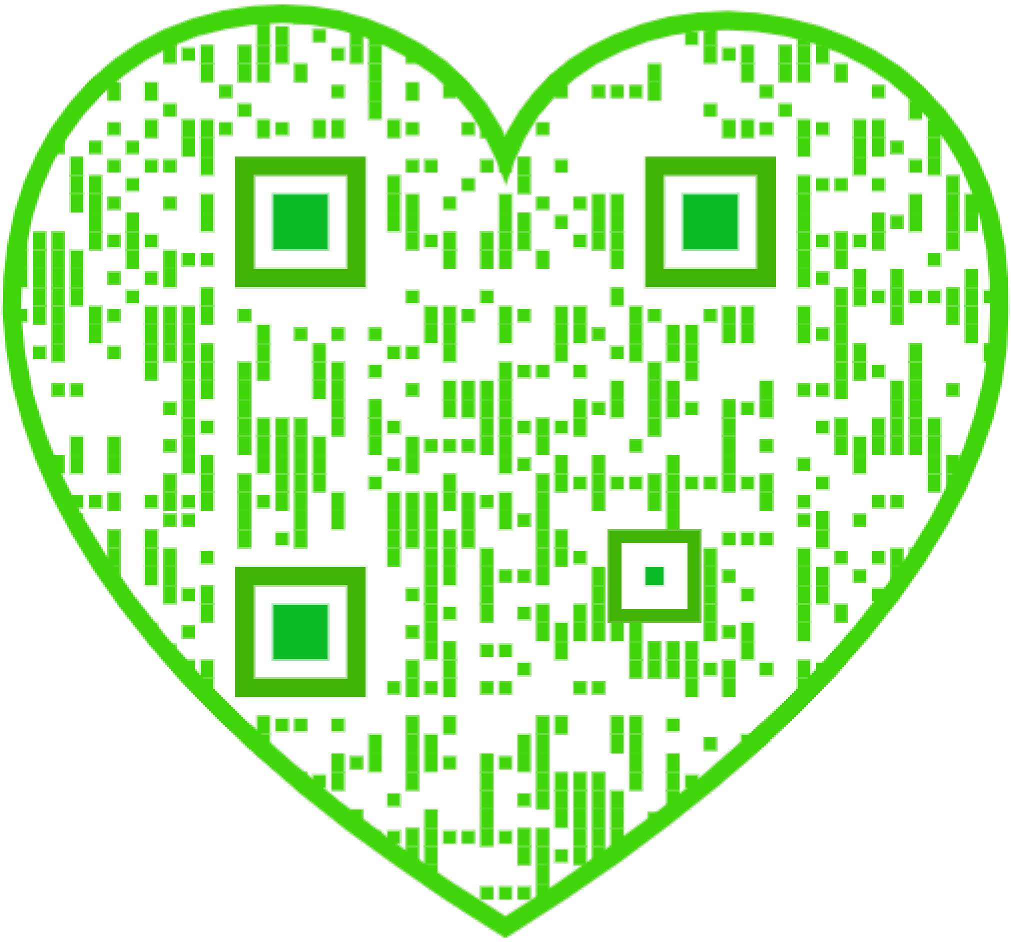

WELCOME

TO THE WEIRD AND WONDERFUL WORLD OF ANIMALS!

TAKE A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE AND COME ON THIS SILLY SAFARI WHERE YOU'LL DISCOVER THE STRANGEST, GROSSEST AND FUNNIEST CREATURES ON THE PLANET!

ANIMALS THAT LOOK LIKE ALIENS! SWAMP MONSTERS! FLYING BEAVERS! WE'VE GOT 'EM ALL AND MORE! SO STRAP IN FOR AN AWESOME ADVENTURE INTO PLANET STRANGE!

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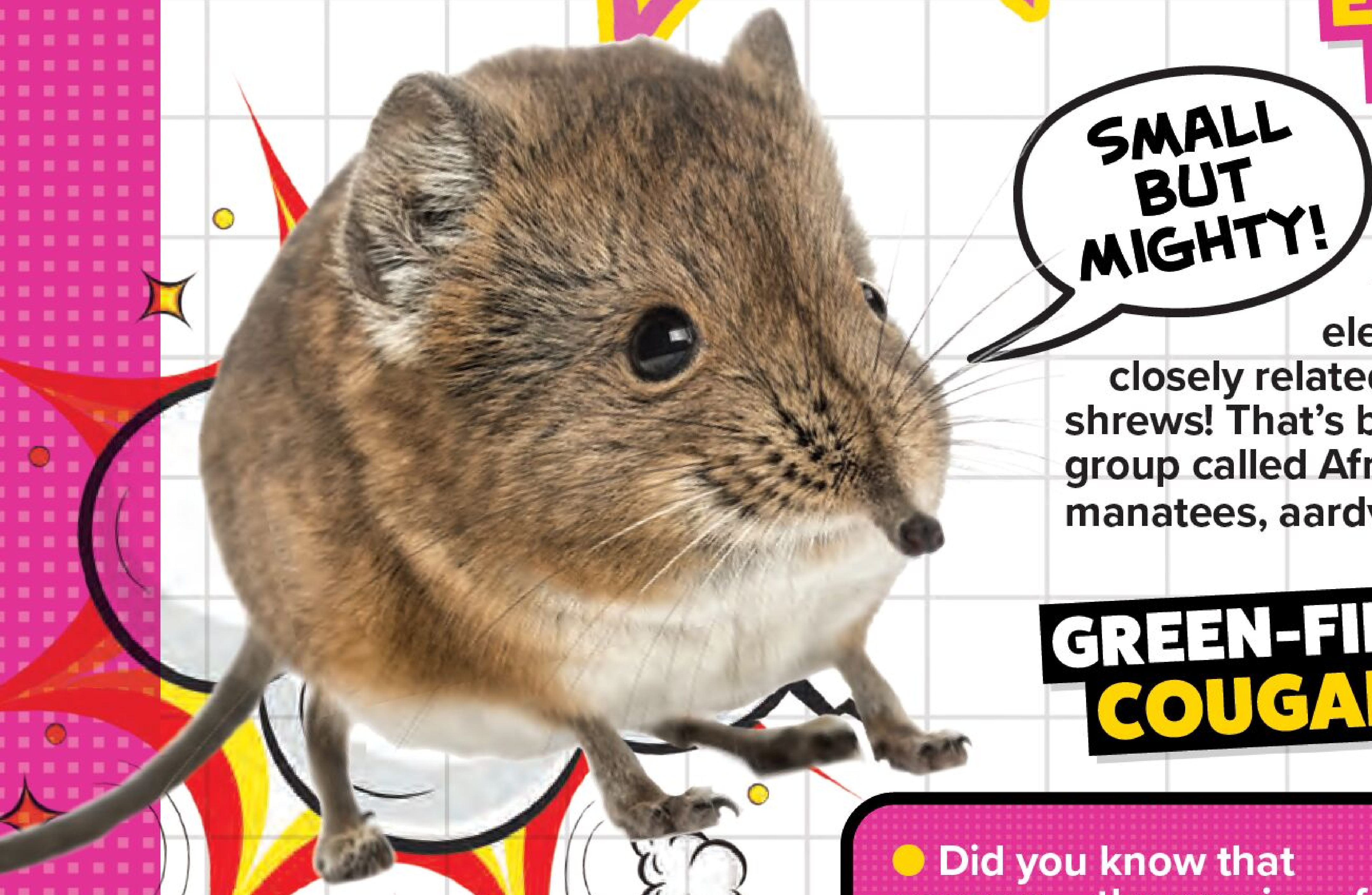
ZOOKEEPER OFFICE
BEWARE LIONS
Café

MIND-BLOWING FACTS!

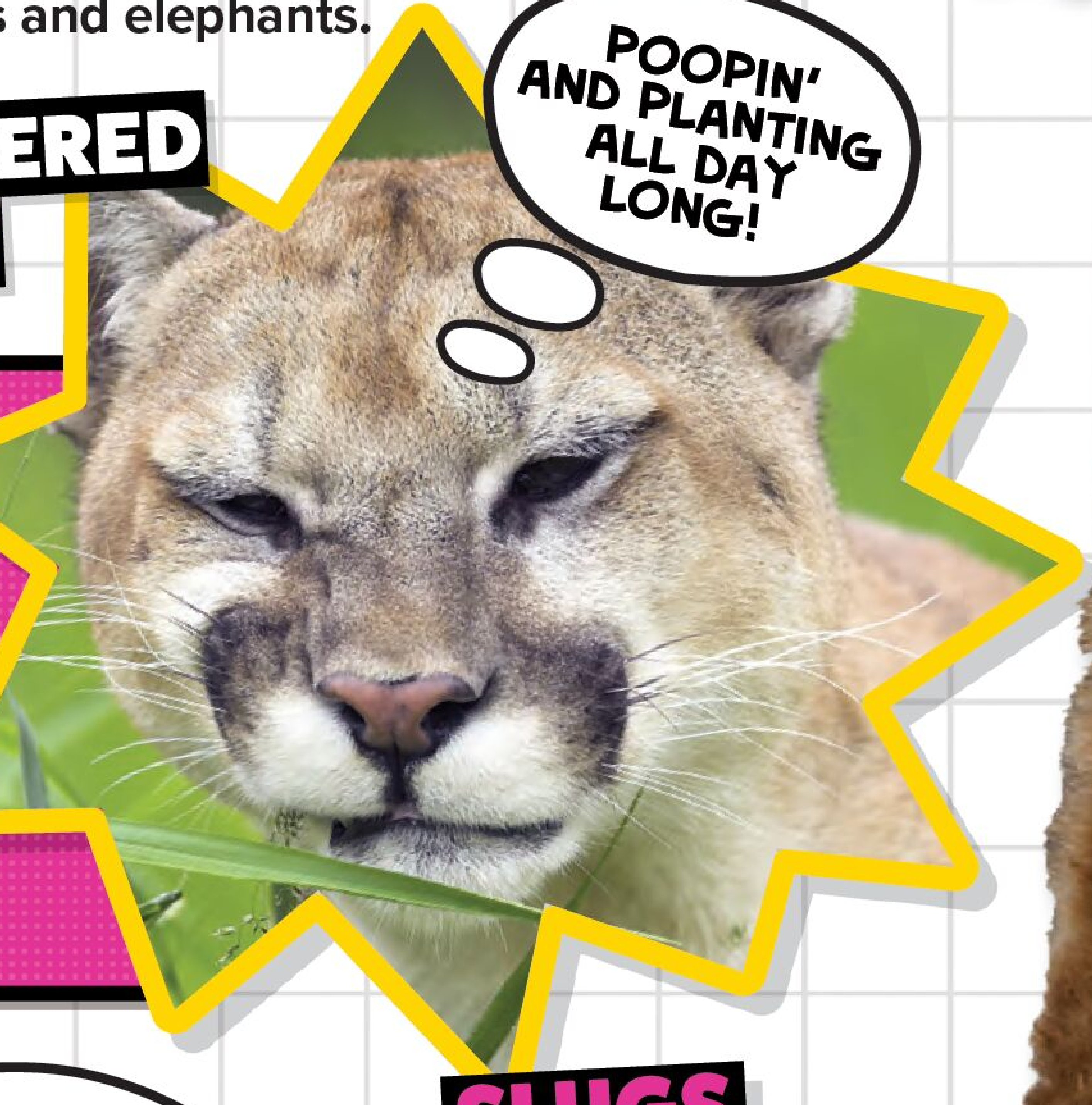
FROM GIGANTIC EGGS TO ANIMALS WITH MULTIPLE NOSES – WE BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW THIS!

CAN YOU GUESS THE ELEPHANT SHREWS' CLOSEST RELATIVE?



In 2014, DNA analysis revealed that, despite being the size of a mouse, elephant shrews are more closely related to elephants than they are shrews! That's because they belong to a group called Afrotheria, which includes manatees, aardvarks and elephants.

GREEN-FINGERED COUGARS



Did you know that cougars – the species of large, wild cat also known as pumas or mountain lions – are excellent gardeners? Scientists believe that a single cougar can plant 94,000 seeds a year just through eating and pooping!

CHIPMUNKS SEE IN SLOW MO!

A study in 2013 concluded that, in general, smaller animals are capable of absorbing lots of information in a relatively short space of time – effectively seeing the life around them in slow motion!

SLUGS HAVE FOUR NOSES

MMM, GET A WHIFF OF THAT!

Although they're not the same as the noses we have – that would be silly! Instead, slugs have two pairs of tentacles on their heads that they use to gather information about their surroundings.

IS IT A JELLYFISH MOUTH OR BUM?

● Did you know that some species of jellyfish have an opening in the centre of their bodies which they use for both eating and pooping? Yuck!

I WANNA BE LIKE YOU!

WE ARE 98% GORILLA!

● Well, not exactly. However, we do share 98% of our DNA with gorillas.

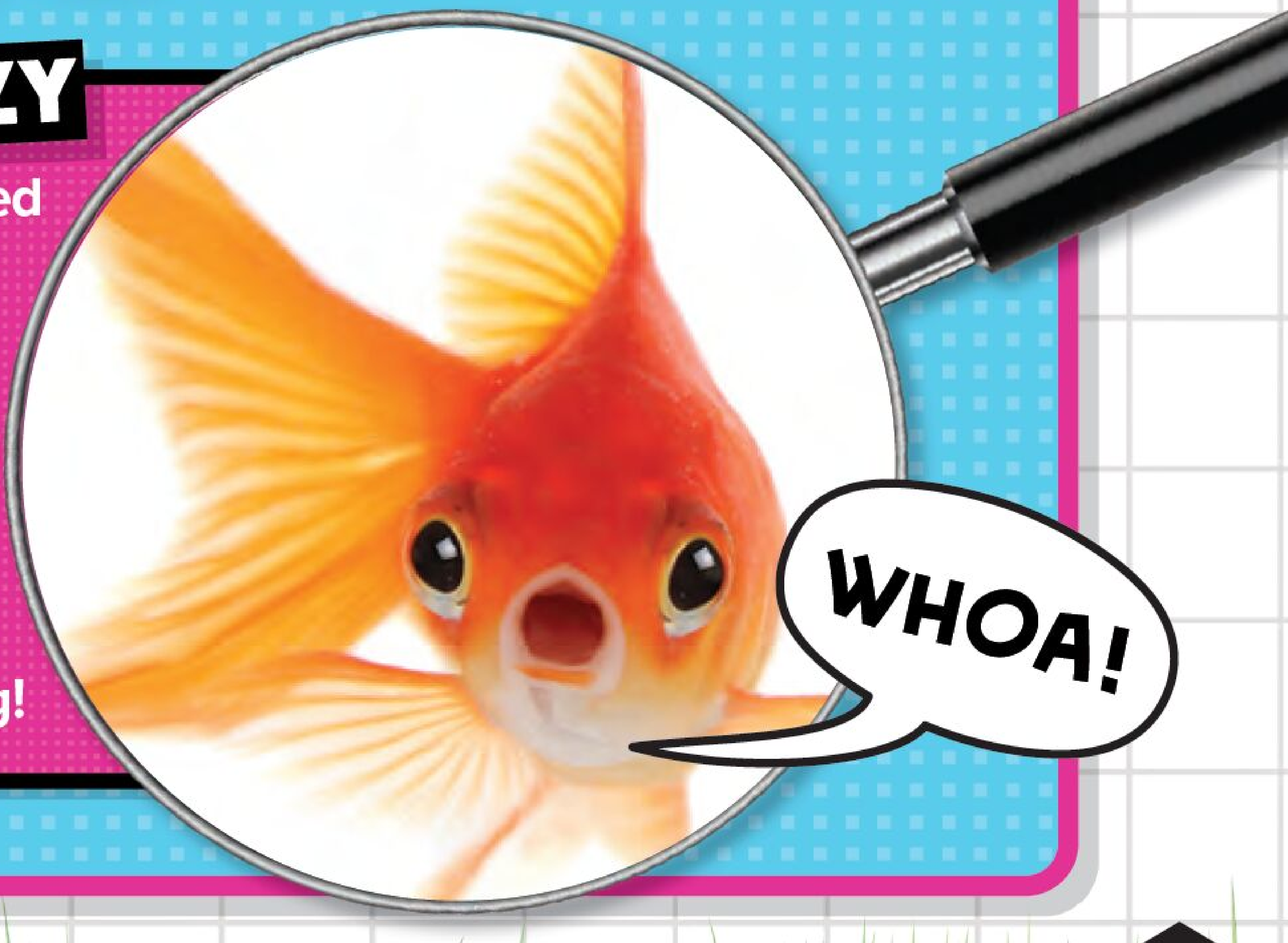
CRACKING OSTRICH EGG BREAKS RECORDS

● Ostrich eggs commonly weigh three pounds and measure up to 15cm in length. In 2008, an ostrich living on a farm in Sweden earned a Guinness World Record for laying an egg that weighed almost double the average!

● A fully grown grizzly bear's bite is so strong it could crush a bowling ball with ease. That's because they have a bite force of more than 8,000,000 pascals, which is approx 1,160 pounds per square inch (psi). In comparison, a human's bite measures 162 psi!

FISH FRENZY

● It's estimated that more than 34,000 species of fish have been identified on our planet. That's quite a lot of counting!



MEET THE BUG THAT POOPS CANDY!

BEFORE YOU RUSH TO THE SWEET SHOP, YOU WON'T FIND THE CANDY THESE BUGS PRODUCE ON THE SHELVES. HOWEVER, YOU MIGHT BE SURPRISED TO FIND OUT YOU MAY HAVE BEEN EATING SOMETHING THAT COMES OUT OF AN INSECT'S BOTTOM WITHOUT EVEN KNOWING!

WHAT IS AN APHID?

An aphid is a bug that belongs to a family including bed bugs, cicadas and stink bugs. Despite being tiny, all of these insects eat by biting into their prey and sucking out their insides!

An aphid's prey, however, is a plant, which means they are after its sap (a liquid that's a mix of sugar and water).

FROM SAP TO CANDY

Once an aphid feeds on the sap of a plant, its stomach burns off the parts of the food it needs for energy leaving only the sugary bit behind. This clear and syrup-like liquid is known as honeydew – something that ants love so much they will sometimes guard aphids so they can have access to a constant supply. Ants have even been seen drinking an aphid's poo straight from their bottoms!

FUN FACT!

THERE ARE THOUGHT TO BE APPROXIMATELY 4,500 SPECIES OF APHID FOUND ON OUR PLANET.

WHO EATS APHID POO?

Aside from ants, bees do too! This sweet sap can be found in certain kinds of honey. This is called honeydew honey, or is sometimes called forest honey because it's made from insect residue that bees collect on trees!

FUN FACT!

APHIDS CAN PRODUCE THE SAME AMOUNT OF POO AS THEIR OWN BODYWEIGHT EVERY TWO HOURS!

WHETHER VENOMOUS OR JUST PLAIN SCARY, HERE'S A COUNTDOWN OF THE ANIMALS YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO CROSS!

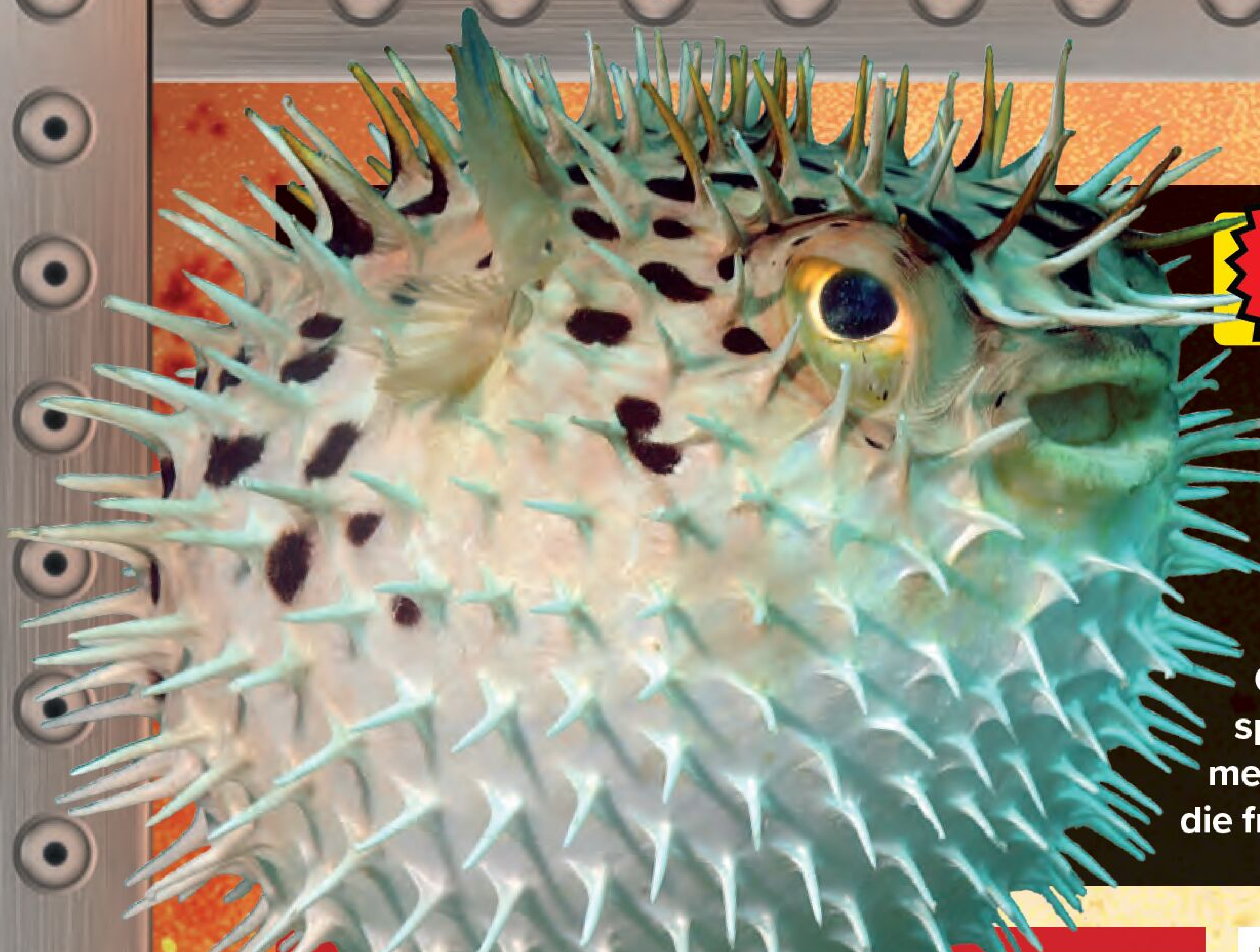
TOP 10 DEADLIEST ANIMALS!

10 INDIAN RED SCORPION

Indian red scorpions are one of the most lethal in the world. 25 species of scorpion have venom toxic enough to kill a human and even though the Indian red scorpion is only around 40-60mm long, its venom is more deadly than all others.

INDIAN SAW-SCALED 9 VIPER

Indian saw-scaled vipers are small but aggressive. This snake doesn't have to be provoked to bite. In fact, they are responsible for more snake bites than any other species. One bite could be fatal!



8 PUFFERFISH

Pufferfish are the second most poisonous vertebrate on the planet! Their skin and organs are filled with a poison called tetrodotoxin. If ingested, it can be fatal to humans. However, in Japan, **pufferfish** or ‘fugu’ is actually a local delicacy – yes, you can eat the poisonous fish! Chefs preparing the deadly delicacy must have a special licence and remove the poisonous parts. This method isn’t foolproof and people have been known to die from eating a **pufferfish**.

7 SYDNEY FUNNEL-WEB SPIDER

This **spider** is one of the most venomous in the world, and their fangs are so sharp they can pierce through fingernails like butter — yikes! Male spiders of this breed are even more dangerous as their poison is six times more venomous.

6 BLACK MAMBA

The **black mamba** is the fastest snake on the planet. A single bite has enough venom to kill 10 people but it’s the snake’s rapid speed of 12.5mph that makes it more deadly than the others.

5 STONEFISH

Stonefish get their name from their stone-like appearance. They camouflage into the ocean floor so they are difficult to spot – this makes them very dangerous to humans because if we can’t see them, we’re more likely to step on them. They have spikes along their back which release venom under pressure.

4 SALTWATER CROCODILE

Saltwater crocodiles are enormous, vicious killers. Although all crocodiles are dangerous, the saltwater croc is especially scary, as it can swim in salt water and fresh water and has the strongest bite in the animal kingdom.

3 TSETSE FLY

The tiny little **tsetse fly** is a bloodsucking bug but that is not why it makes the list. The flies also carry parasites which transmit disease from animals to humans! YUCK!

INLAND TAIPAN

2

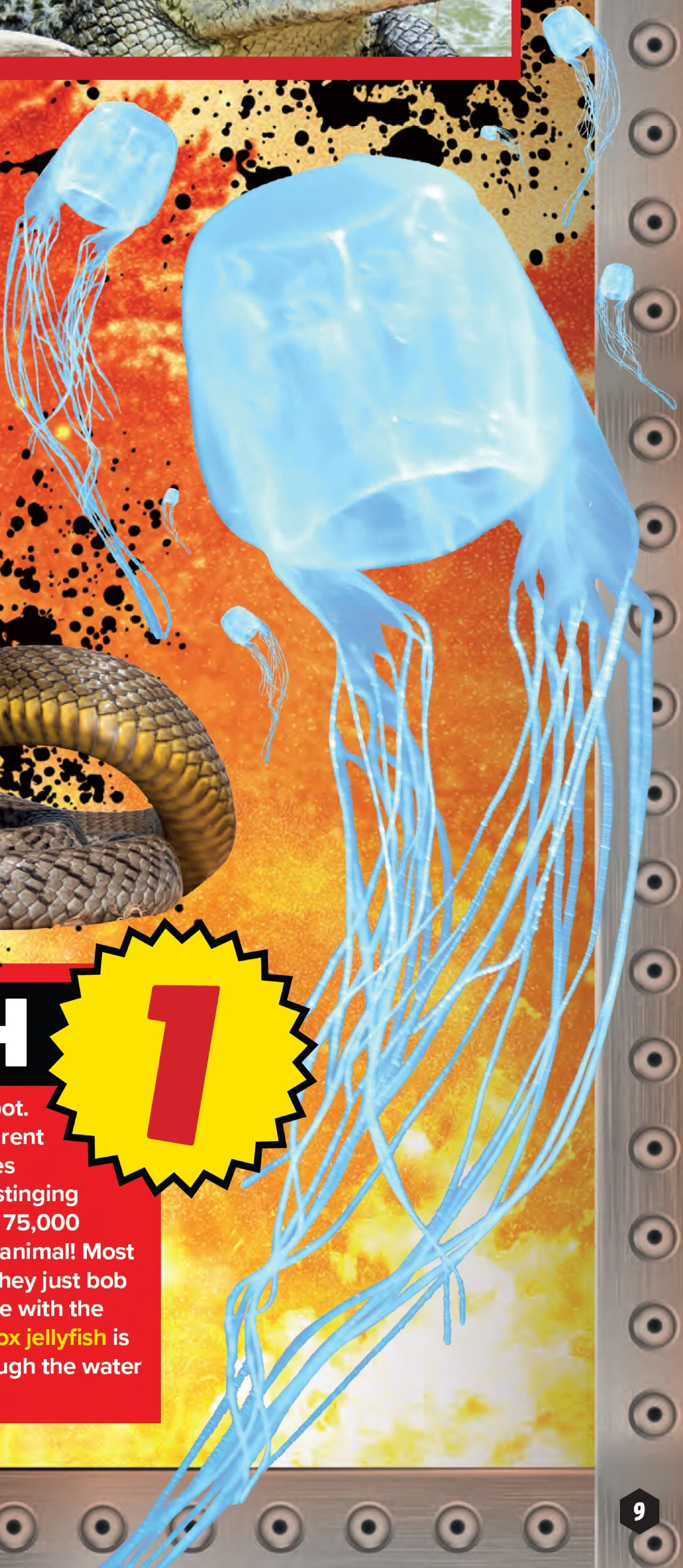
Inland taipan snakes will not attack unless provoked. However, it is known to have the most toxic venom of its species!

This venom then spreads incredibly quickly through the bloodstream making it even more dangerous.

BOX JELLYFISH

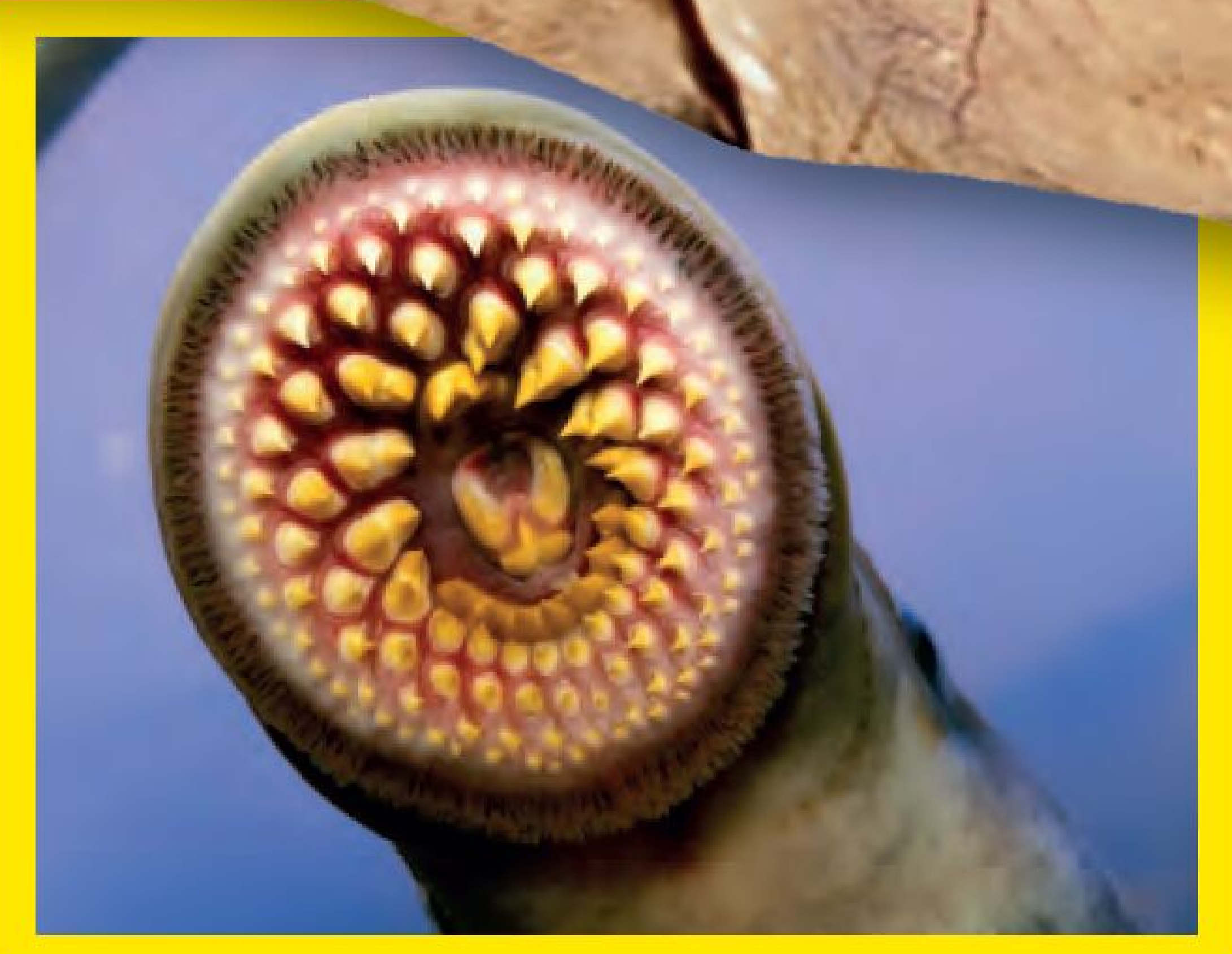
1

The **box jellyfish** is the deadliest animal on the planet. Its venom is so powerful it can stun and kill prey within seconds. The jellyfish venom attacks the prey's heart and skin first, this causes so much pain, victims often go into shock and die from heart failure. Their appearance also contributes to their deadly nature as they're completely transparent and incredibly tricky to spot. They have 15 transparent 3-metre-long tentacles and there are 5,000 stinging cells on each – that's 75,000 stinging cells on one animal! Most jellyfish don't swim, they just bob in the water and move with the tide... however, the **box jellyfish** is able to navigate through the water with purpose.



Sink your teeth into fascinating facts about these fang-tastic animals!

VAMPIRES OF THE ANIMAL KINGDOM!



SEA LAMPREY

- The vampires of the sea! It latches on and bores holes into the flesh of creatures it's feeding on. Even sharks aren't safe from these spooky parasites.

DRACULA ANT

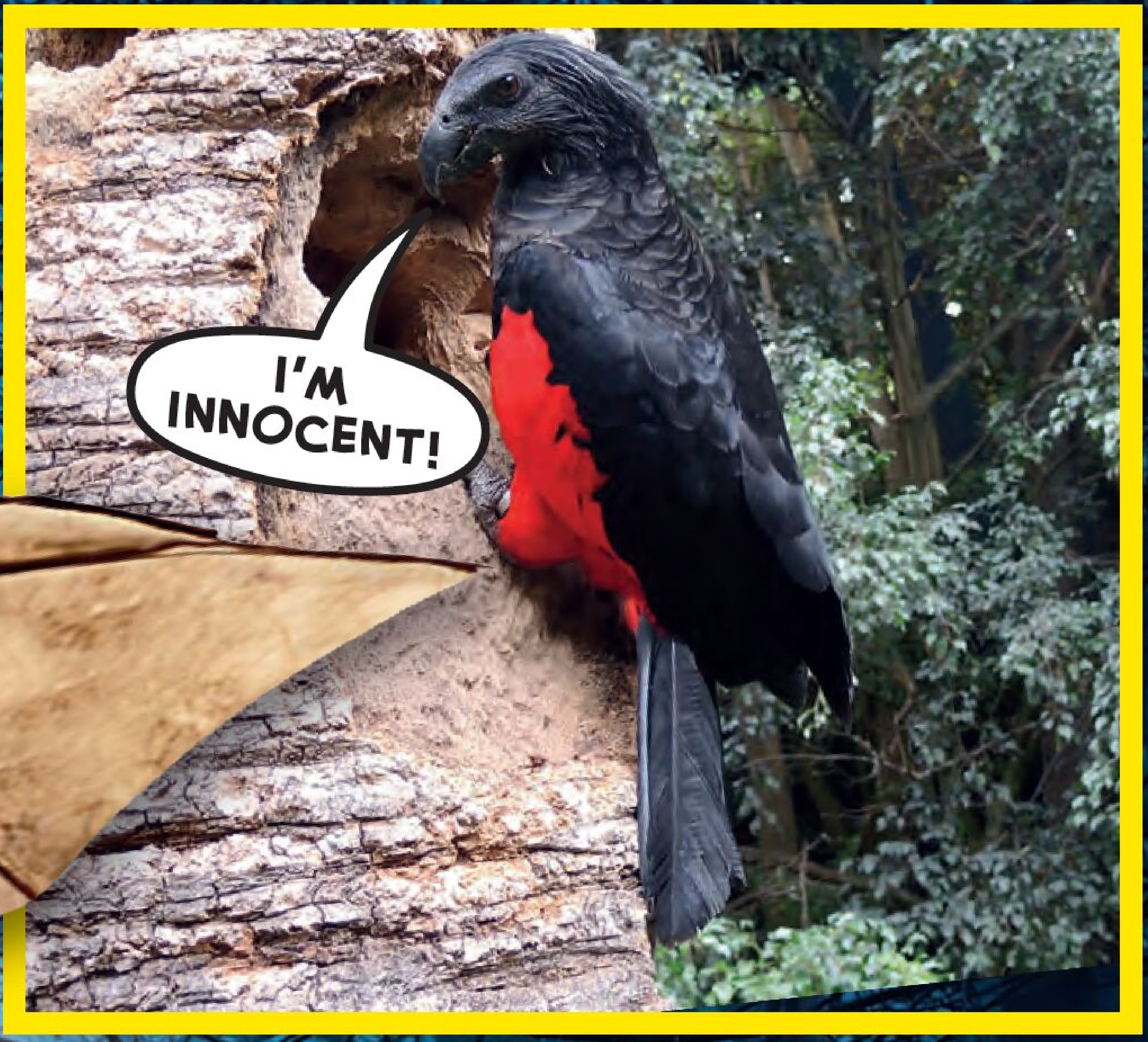
- These little blood-suckers can bite at up to 200 miles per hour, holding the record for the fastest-known animal movement. Now that's snappy!

VAMPIRE BATS

- Animals need to sleep with one eye open with these bats around. They like to sneak up on slumbering cows, pigs and horses to snack on their blood! Once they get a taste, they come back night after night to the same victim!

VAMPIRE FISH

- It eats piranhas for breakfast! Their 15cm fangs would even send Count Dracula running home to his mummy!

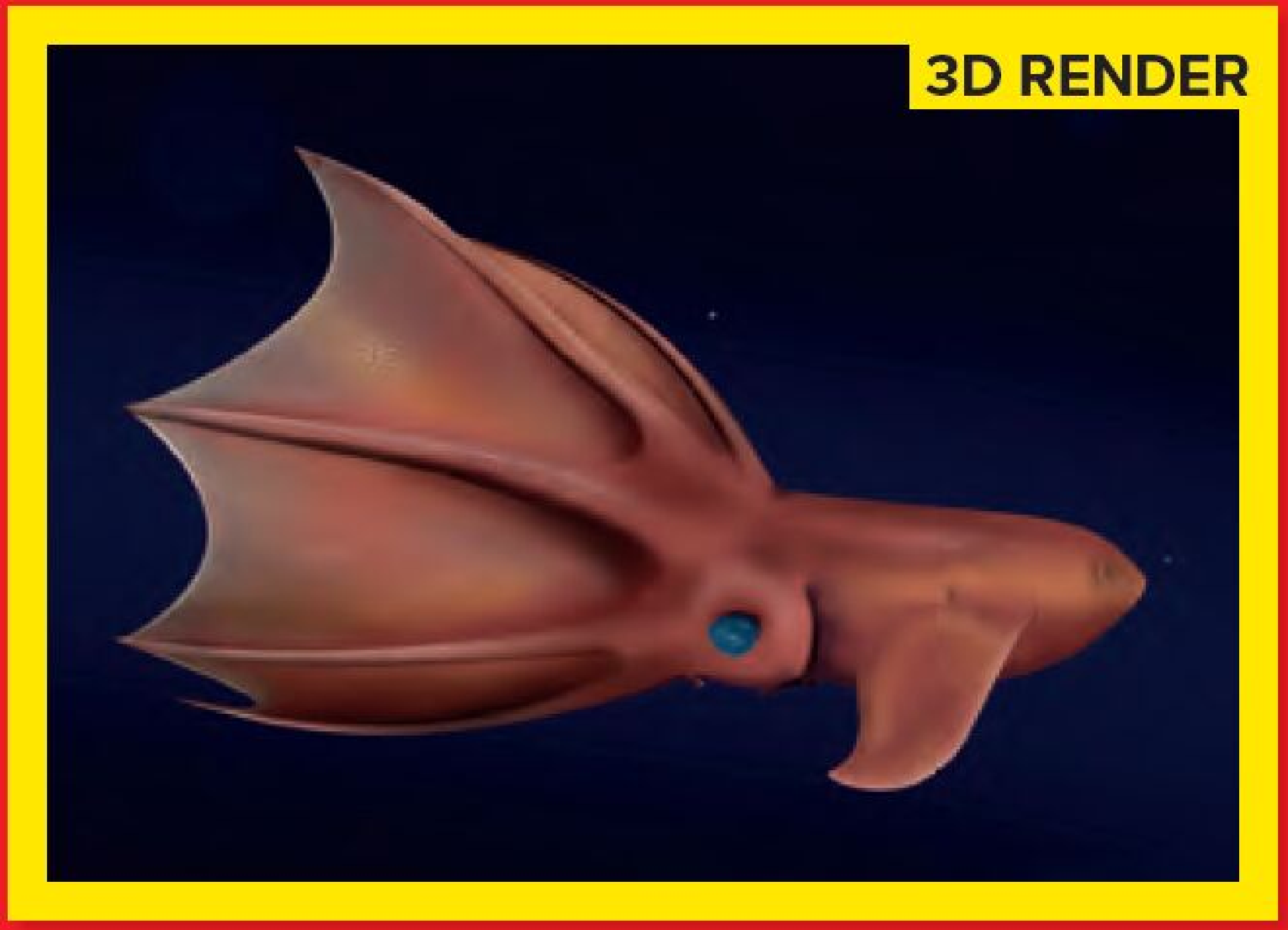


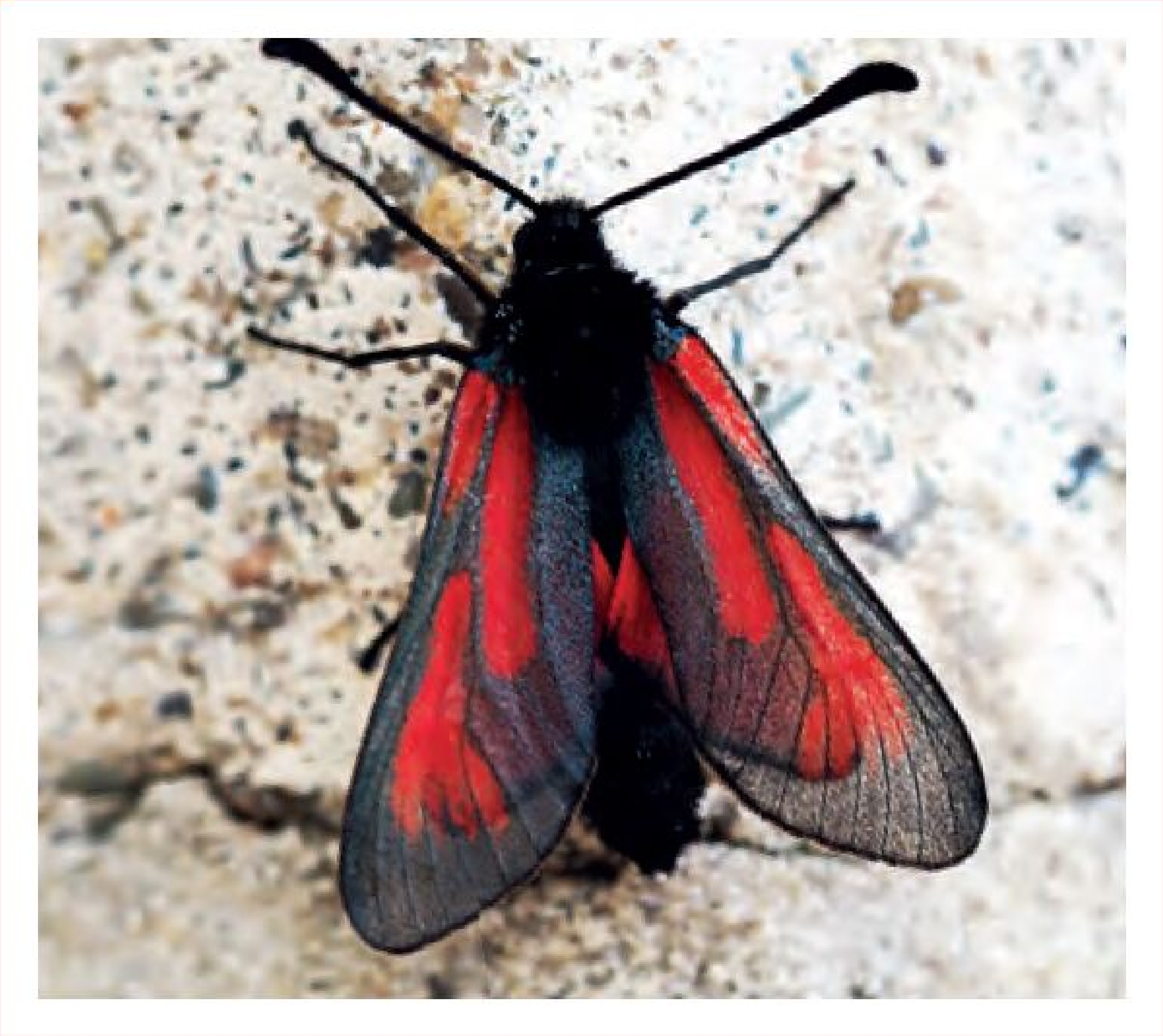
DRACULA PARROT

- It might look like it flew right out of Transylvania but the dracula parrot doesn't actually drink blood. It gets its name because of the way it looks and the blood-curdling screams it makes when in flight.

VAMPIRE SQUID

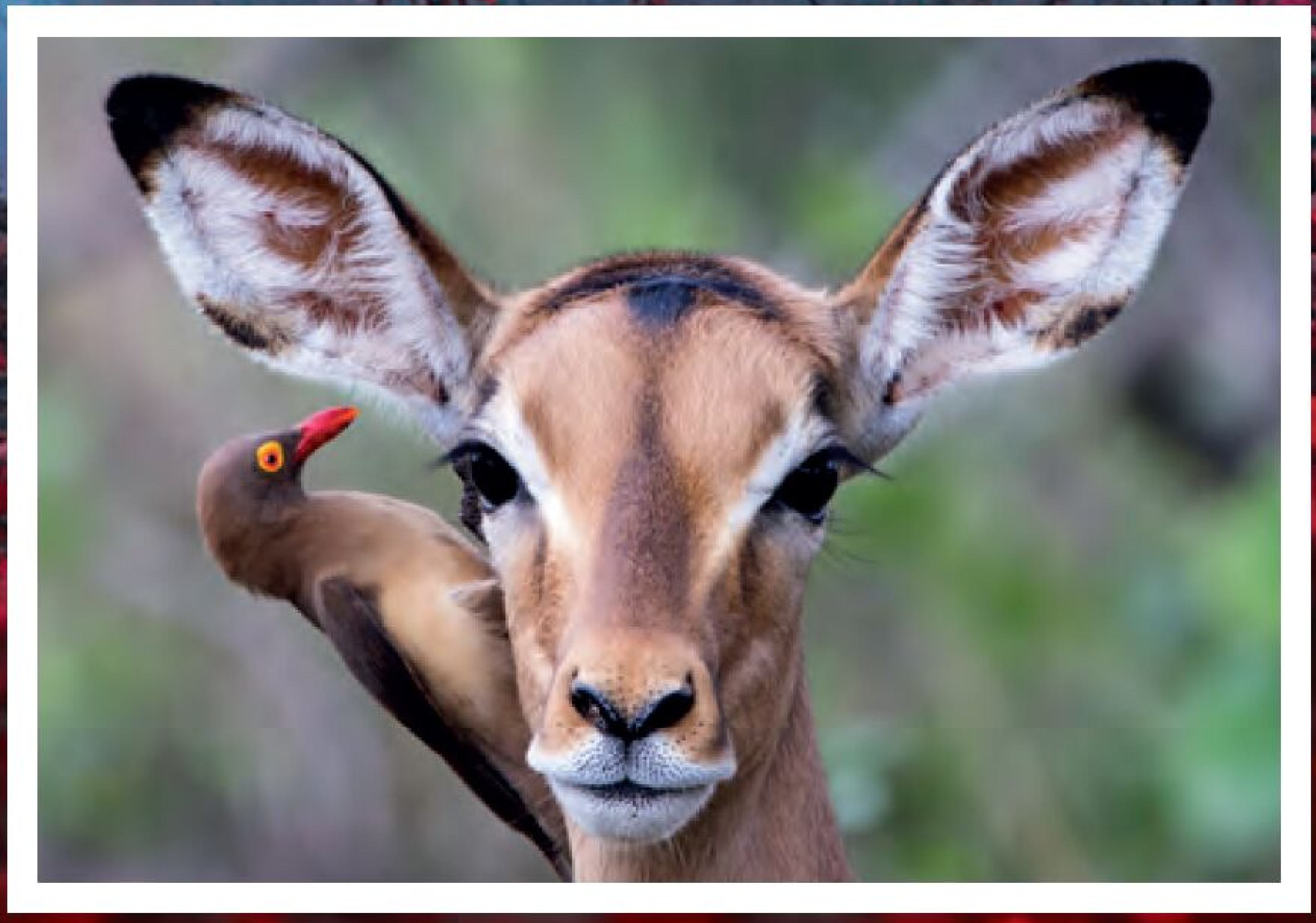
- Named because of the cloak-like web it turns inside out when threatened, exposing the sharp spines beneath! Its tentacles shoot out ghastly, glowing mucus if you get too close.


3D RENDER



VAMPIRE MOTH

- These scary Siberian moths drill their tongue through your skin to drink your blood. Sleep tight, don't let the vampire moth bite!



OXPECKER

- These mini menaces piggyback onto large animals like rhinos, hippos, giraffes and zebras, eating the blood-filled ticks on them or feeding on their wounds.

HOW TO MAKE FAKE BLOOD!

- Trick your family and friends with this blood-curdling prank that'll have them howling!

DO NOT TRY WHERE ALLERGIES MAY BE AN ISSUE!

YOU'LL NEED:

- 100ml water
- 3 tablespoons of cocoa powder
- 3 tablespoons of dark red food colouring

WHAT TO DO:

1 Mix all the ingredients together in a bowl. Add more food colouring if needed.

2 If it's too thin, add more cocoa powder. If it's too thick, add more water.

3 Once you're happy with the colour and texture, paint it on to take you from cool to ghoul!

PARP PO

PREPARE TO BE BLOWN AWAY BY THESE FART-TASTIC FACTS!

FART ATTACK!

- Honey badgers use their toxic guffs to immobilise bees so they can steal all their honey!

LOUD AND PROUD!

- Zebra farts are so loud they can be heard from miles away! Try blaming that on the dog!

MEGA PARP!

- The blue whale can create a fart bubble so big you could fit a horse inside of it!

HONK!
PAAARP!

STINK FIGHTS!

- Lemurs use their bottom blasts to have stink fights! They rub their hands in the stench and wave them at their enemies. The smelliest lemur wins!

TOOT OR FALSE?

Birds, octopuses and sloths can't fart!

Answer: True!

BETTER OUT THAN IN!

STINKY SNAKES!

- The Sonoran coral snake breaks wind to defend itself! It raises its tail in the air and lets one rip when danger is near!

WER!

TINY TOOTERS!

- Termites pass gas so much they actually contribute to global warming! Every colony is made up of millions of tooting termites who let rip half a microgram of methane gas each day. The little stinkers are responsible for 3% of global methane emissions!

APOCALYPSE COW!

- Because cows have four stomachs, they're constantly blasting one off! They're responsible for 14% of the world's greenhouse gases each year!

DEEP SEA PARPER!

- **Manatees control their buoyancy by storing and releasing their parps! They have pouches in their intestines to store their ghastly gases!**

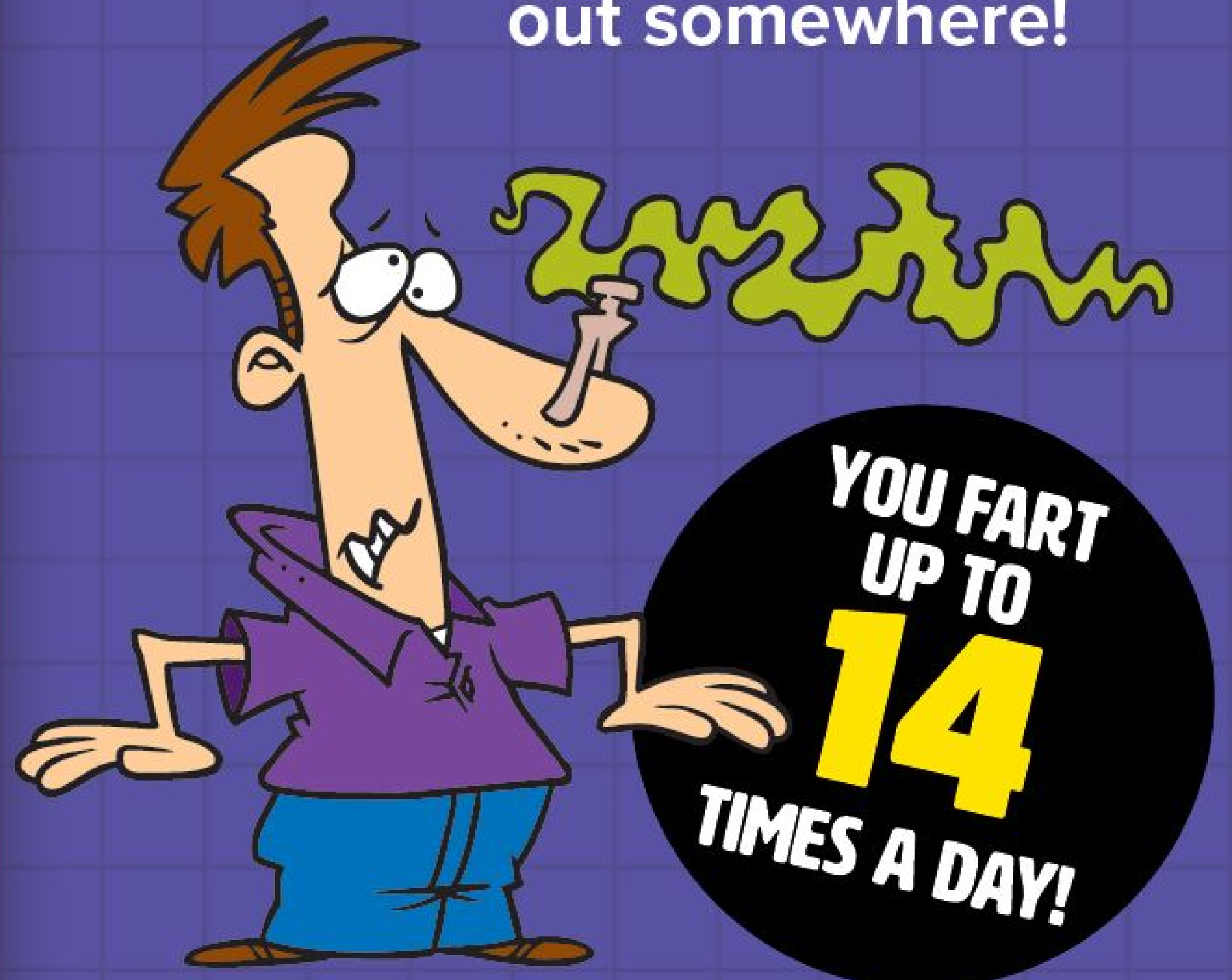
THE SUPER SMELLIEST!

- According to zookeepers, the critters who let go the most revolting stink bombs are seals and sea lions. They smell like rotten fish! Ew!

TOOT!
SMELLS FINE TO ME!

PARP TOOT-ORIAL!

- Ever wondered why you fart? When you eat food, you also swallow air which mixes with the gases your body produces when it digests food, and they've got to come out somewhere!



YOU FART UP TO 14 TIMES A DAY!

- **Trouser trumps can travel at up to 7 MPH! You can run but you can't hide!**
- Only 1% of your parps smell. Most of the gases you expel are odourless. It's the sulphur that gives it that eggy stink!
- **Chewing gum makes you parp because you swallow air while you chew!**
- What you eat affects how smelly your farts are! Foods rich in sulphur like broccoli, brussels sprouts, cheese and cabbage all make your rump roars rank!

IN ONE DAY YOU PARP ENOUGH TO FILL A BALLOON!

FARTING FISH!

- Herring pump to communicate with each other so they can form shoals when predators are around – even in the dark!

PLANET STRANGE

The weirdest facts from around the universe!

SCRATCH THAT ITCH!

OOH, THAT'S A GOOD BIT!

What do you do if you're a puffin and you've got an itch that desperately needs scratching? Grab a twig of course! Puffins have short little beaks and tubby bodies, so it's unsurprising that they'd need a tool when the time comes to soothe an itch. This method was first spotted on a remote island off the coast of Wales in 2014, but wasn't captured on camera until 2019 when a team observed a pair of Atlantic puffins in Iceland.

MEET SPIDER-RACCOON!

Ever watched Spider-Man and wished you could climb walls too? Sadly, it's not possible – unless you're this daredevil raccoon! In 2018, a raccoon spent nearly 20 hours climbing a skyscraper in downtown St Paul in Minnesota, USA. The brave animal's ascent was closely followed on social media until it reached the rooftop at 3am, where some well-earned cat food was waiting for it in a humane trap. Rescuers released the mammal in a safer and more suitable location later that day.

TALKING HORSES! KIND OF...

I'VE GOT IT SUSSED!

Have you ever tried talking to a horse? A team in Norway has! Back in 2016, a group of Norwegian researchers taught 23 horses how to tell humans what they wanted through symbols. After just 10 to15 minutes of training a day for 11 days, the horses were able to recognise the meaning of three symbols: blanket on, blanket off, and no change. So if they didn't want the blanket on any more, they'd simply point to the correct symbol to ask for it to be taken off. How clever!

PRICEY PIGEON!

In 2019, the world's most valuable bird was sold for a record breaking €1.25 million (£1.07 million)! Armando the racing pigeon, who was originally from Flanders in Belgium, was described as 'the best Belgian long-distance pigeon of all time'. Despite quitting the racing world at the age of five, this winged wonder was bought by someone in China who wanted to breed Armando to produce the next generation of elite racing birds.

MOUTHLESS MOTHS!

Moths have the famous reputation of leaving holes in our clothes, despite the fact that it's actually moth larvae that munch their way through our t-shirts! However, some species of moth – such as this luna moth – don't have a mouth or digestive system, so never actually eat a thing. Instead, they receive all of the nutrients they need to survive their week-long adult life during their caterpillar stage!

BATTLE OF THE BEASTS!

MEET THE ANIMALS THAT DO IT BEST!

We reveal the creatures who top the leaderboards of the animal kingdom!

TURN OVER TO MEET...

THE LOUDEST

THE STRONGEST

THE FASTEST

...ANIMALS AROUND!

GRAND LAND WINNERS!

STRONGEST... ELEPHANT

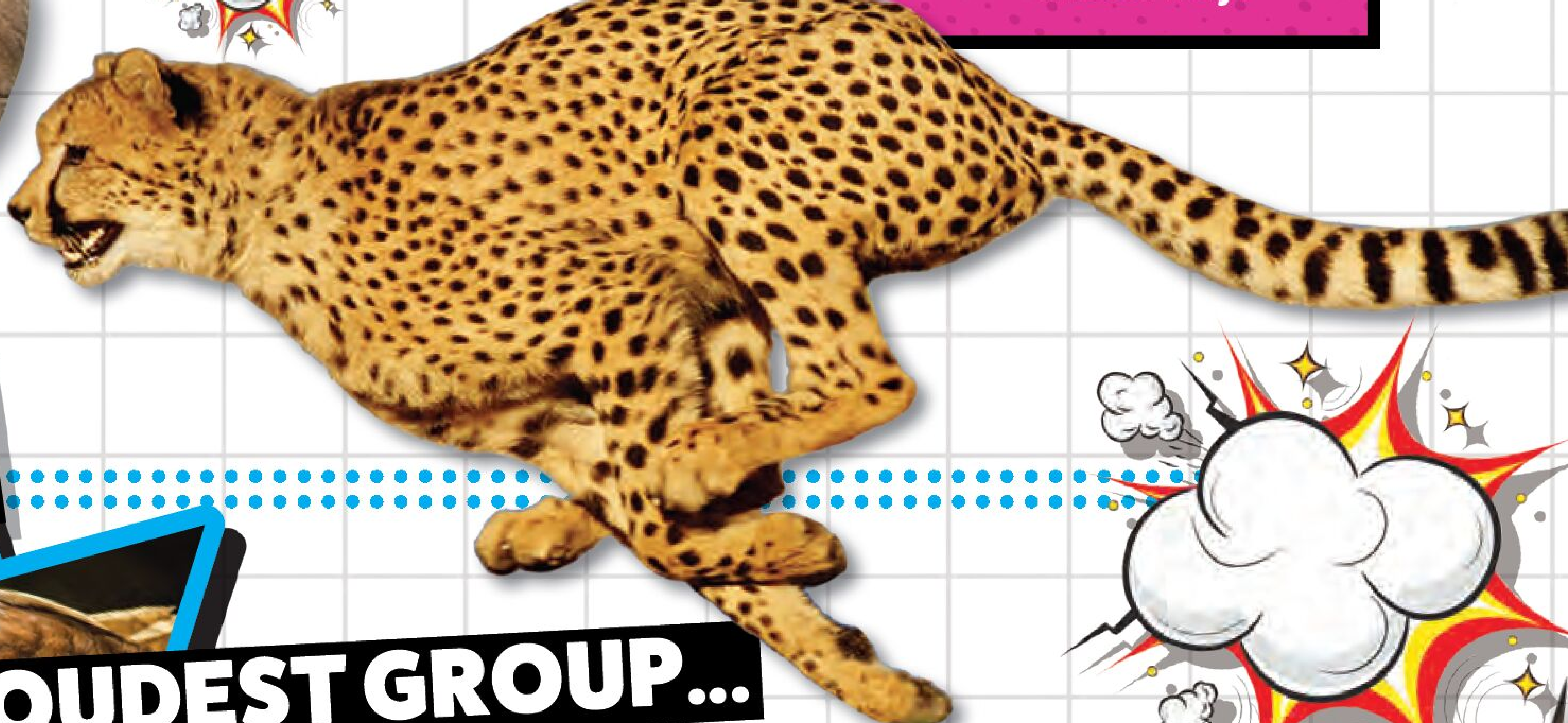
● The African elephant can carry up to SEVEN tons... that's like seven cars!

LOUDEST... HOWLER MONKEY

● A monkey that really lives up to its name, the howler monkey's roar can travel 3 miles – and is only 10 decibels quieter than a jet engine!

FASTEST... CHEETAH

● These speedy felines can run up to 70 miles per hour — imagine seeing one on the motorway!



FLYING HIGH!

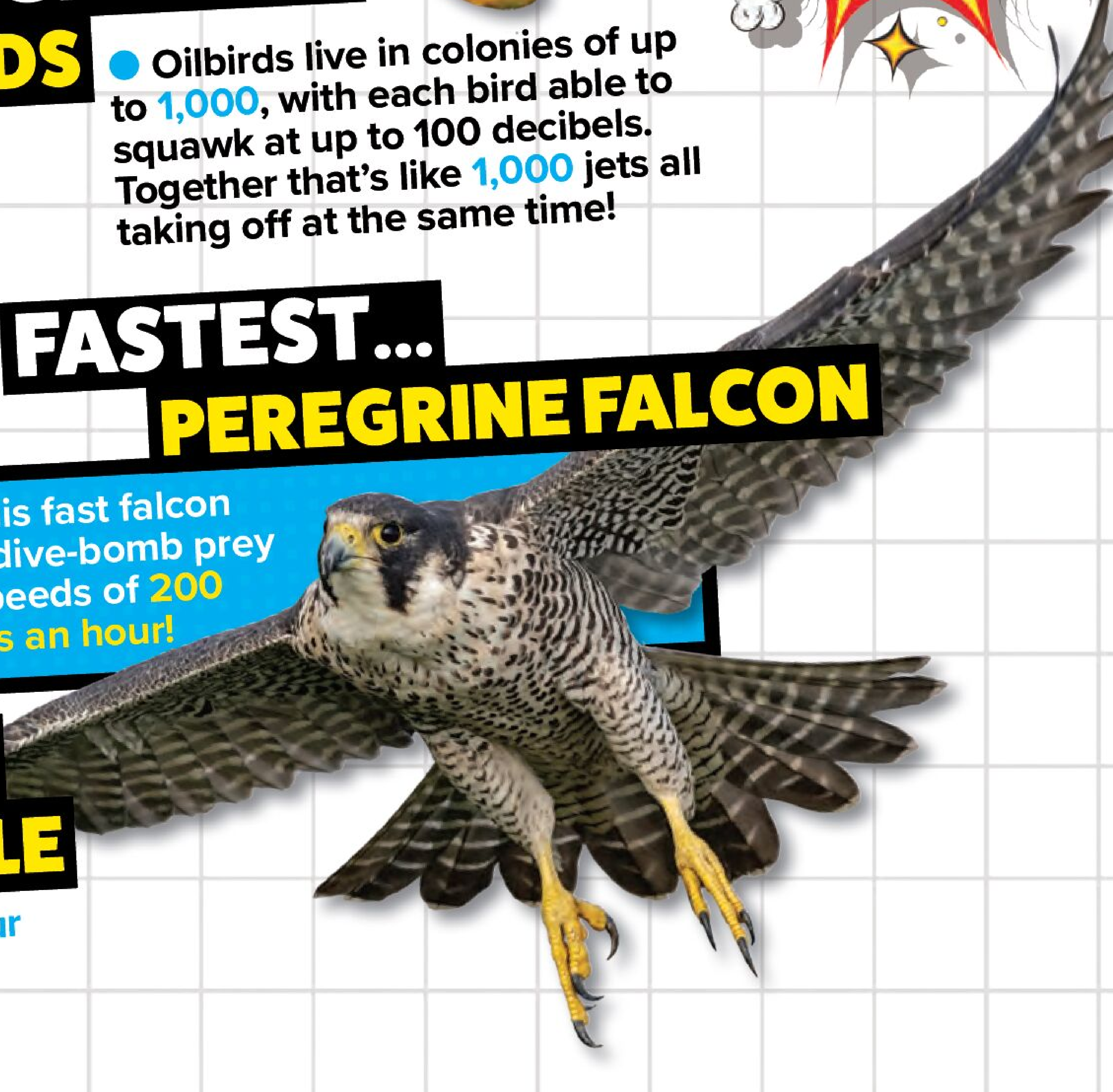
OIL GRAB THE EARPLUGS!

LOUDEST GROUP... OILBIRDS

● Oilbirds live in colonies of up to 1,000, with each bird able to squawk at up to 100 decibels. Together that's like 1,000 jets all taking off at the same time!

FASTEST... PEREGRINE FALCON

● This fast falcon can dive-bomb prey at speeds of 200 miles an hour!



STRONGEST... HARPY EAGLE

● This eagle can lift four times its body weight!

OWNING THE OCEAN!

STRONGEST... BLUE WHALE

- It's no surprise that the largest mammal on earth is also the strongest! They win this title due to their sheer size, and the force that comes with that!

FASTEST... SAILFISH

- The sailfish zips around at speeds of up to 70 miles per hour!

LOUDEST... TIGER PISTOL SHRIMP

- This tiny shrimp's claws have a mighty snap! They are as loud as a gunshot.

CREEPY CRAWLEY CHAMPIONS!

STRONGEST... DUNG BEETLE

- These guys can move dung well over 1,000 times their weight!

LOUDEST... CICADA

- The buzz from the greengrocer cicada can travel a mile and is as loud as a motorbike!

FASTEST... DRAGONFLY AND AUSTRALIAN TIGER BEETLE

- The fastest flying insect is the dragonfly, which zips around at a whopping 35 miles per hour. The speediest bug on land is the Australian tiger beetle, which scuttles about at five miles per hour!

DISCOVER REAL-LIFE DRAGONS

They might not breathe fire, but these remarkable reptiles look like living, breathing dinosaurs!

KOMODO DRAGON

■ It's the T-Rex of lizards! Growing up to 136kg, it's the largest lizard in the world. It can even take down a buffalo with its serrated shark-like teeth and venomous bite! The komodo dragon has a superb sense of smell thanks to its forked tongue, which it uses to test the air for the scent of prey.

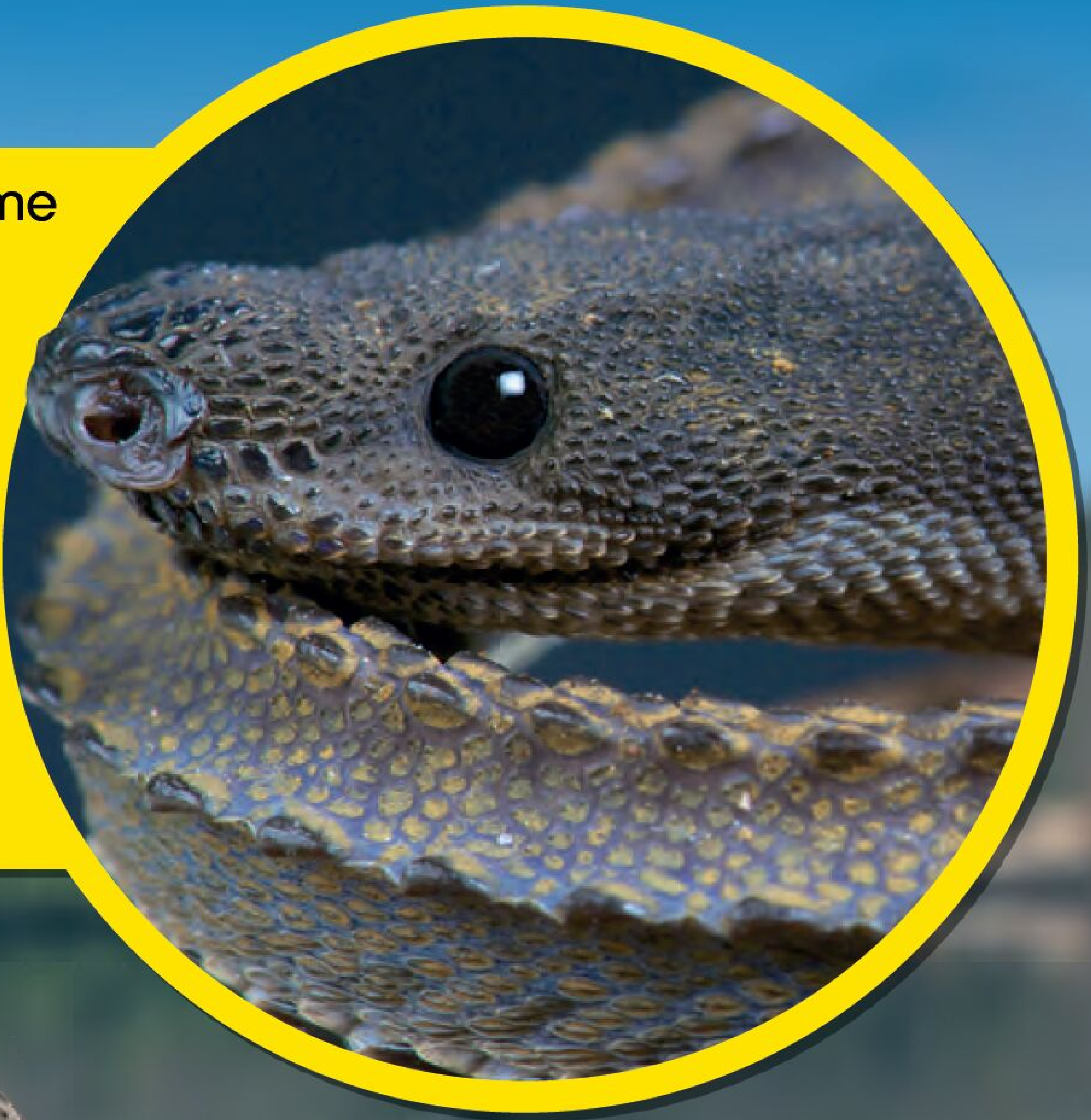
DON'T GET ON MY BAD SIDE!

BEARDED DRAGON

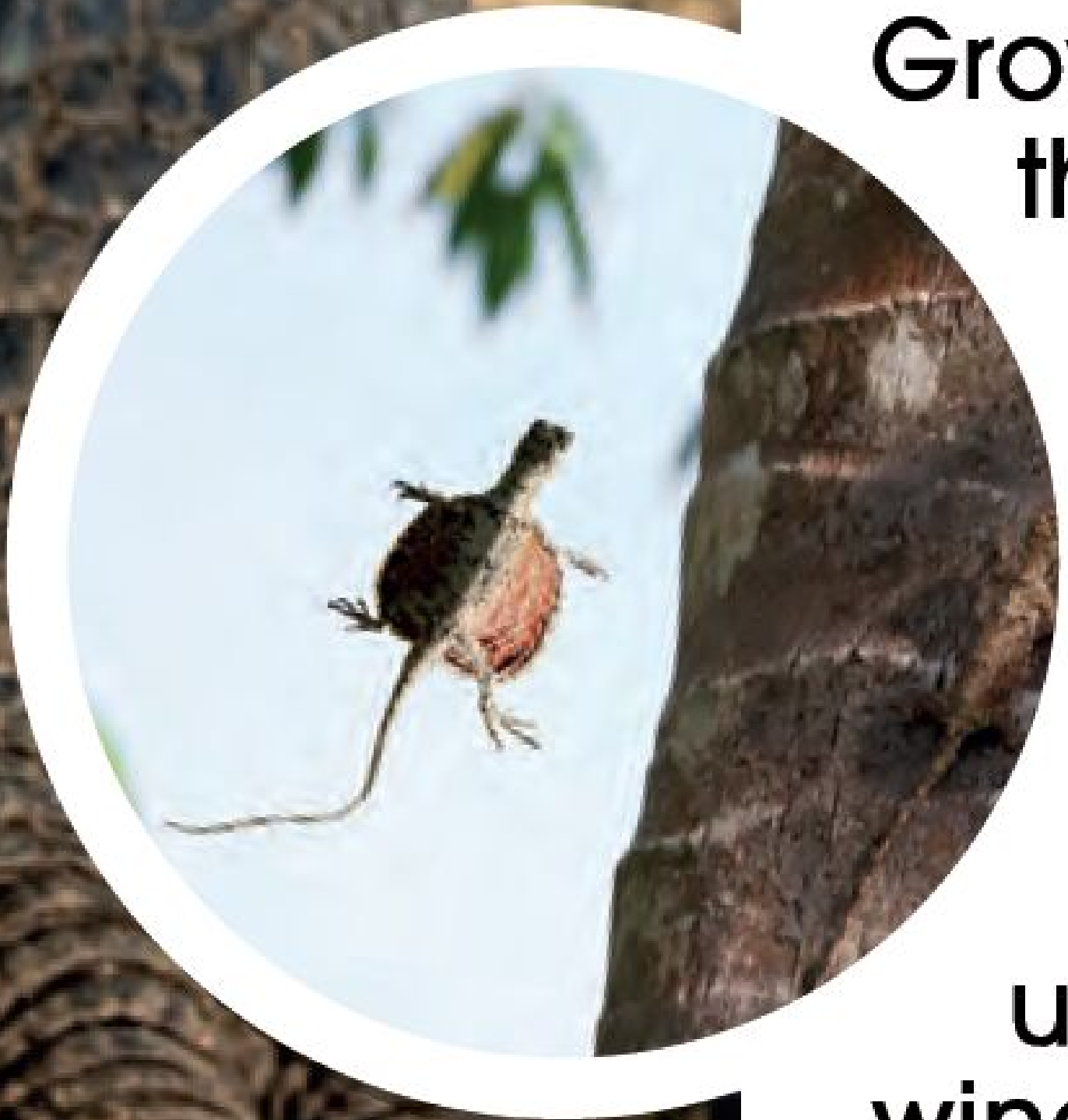
■ Equipped with an armour of spiky skin, these critters look like they stepped right out of Jurassic Park. When threatened, they puff out their beard to make themselves appear bigger and hiss. They change colour throughout the day, getting lighter as the day goes on. When they're really angry, their chin turns black!

DRAGON SNAKE

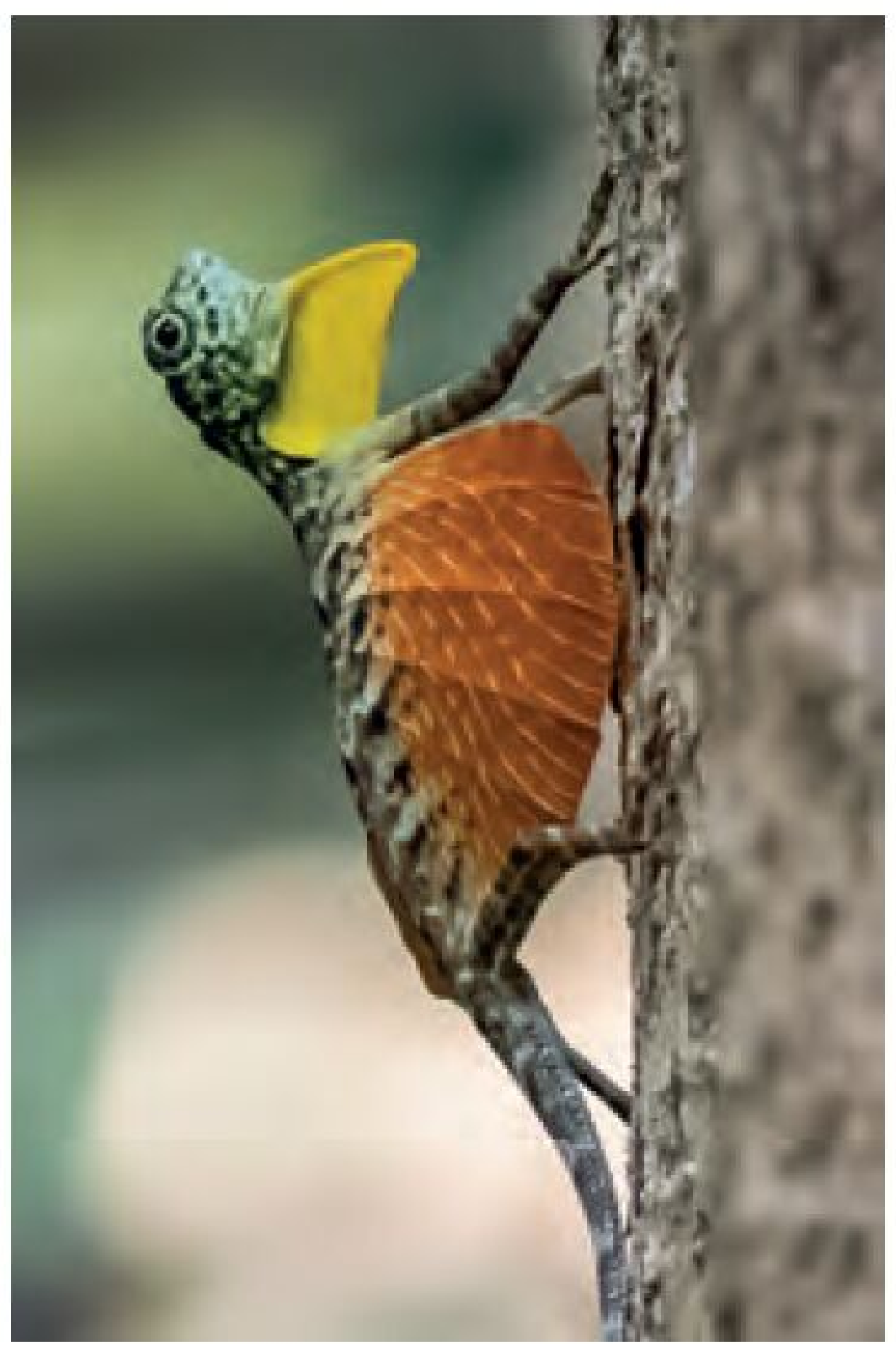
- The dragon snake gets its name for its peculiar scales. Like a dragon, it has ridges that run down the centre of its back. Spending most of its time underground, it only comes out at night to hunt. It might look scary but it's a bit of a scaredy-cat. When touched or picked up, it plays dead by becoming as stiff as a board.



FLYING DRAGON



- They look like baby dragons! Growing up to 30 cm long, the tiny terrors have flaps of skin on both sides of their body called a dewlap that they spread out and use to glide between trees. Leaping from the treetops, they use air pockets from the wind to travel up to half a football field away!



Under the MICROSCOPE

MOSS PIGLETS!

SHORT AND PLUMP

FOUR PAIRS OF LEGS

CLAWS ON THE END OF EACH LEG

Say hello to the **water bear**! They are also known as **moss piglets**, or **tardigrades** (tar-di-grades) to give them their scientific name.

- Water bears are a water dwelling, eight-legged micro-animal.
- They feed on plant cells, algae and small invertebrates.
- **THEY WERE FIRST DISCOVERED BY THE GERMAN ZOOLOGIST JOHANN GOEZE IN 1773.**

WOW! They have been known to survive the most extreme conditions on Earth, and even survived a trip into outer space!

- When fully grown, they're only slightly bigger than a grain of sand!

Water bears have been around for about **500 million** years!

- **WATER BEARS AREN'T HARMFUL TO HUMANS AND THEY HELP THE WORLD'S ECO-SYSTEM, MAKING THEM A TRUE MICROSCOPIC HERO!**

HOW TO FIND ONE! One of the easiest ways to find these little critters is by soaking a piece of moss in water. They can be viewed under a low-power microscope, making them easy for budding scientists to see!

AROUND THE WORLD in 40 FREAKY FACTS!

ARE YOU READY TO EXPLORE?

1 Grizzly bears can run faster than **USAIN BOLT!**

2 **BEAVERS** have bright orange teeth! Ew!

3 Moose antlers can grow to nearly ***TWO METRES WIDE*** — that's taller than you!

YOU CAN CALL ME SIR!

4 THE BALD EAGLE IS THE NATIONAL ANIMAL OF THE USA.

5 A polar bear weighs the same as **24 PEOPLE!**

6 SALAMANDERS ARE NICKNAMED SNOT OTTERS AND LASAGNE LIZARDS!

7 KANGAROO RATS ONLY PEE ONCE A MONTH!

8 DON'T BELIEVE CARTOONS, COYOTES ARE ACTUALLY FASTER THAN ROADRUNNERS!

9 Bison can reach speeds of **40** mph!

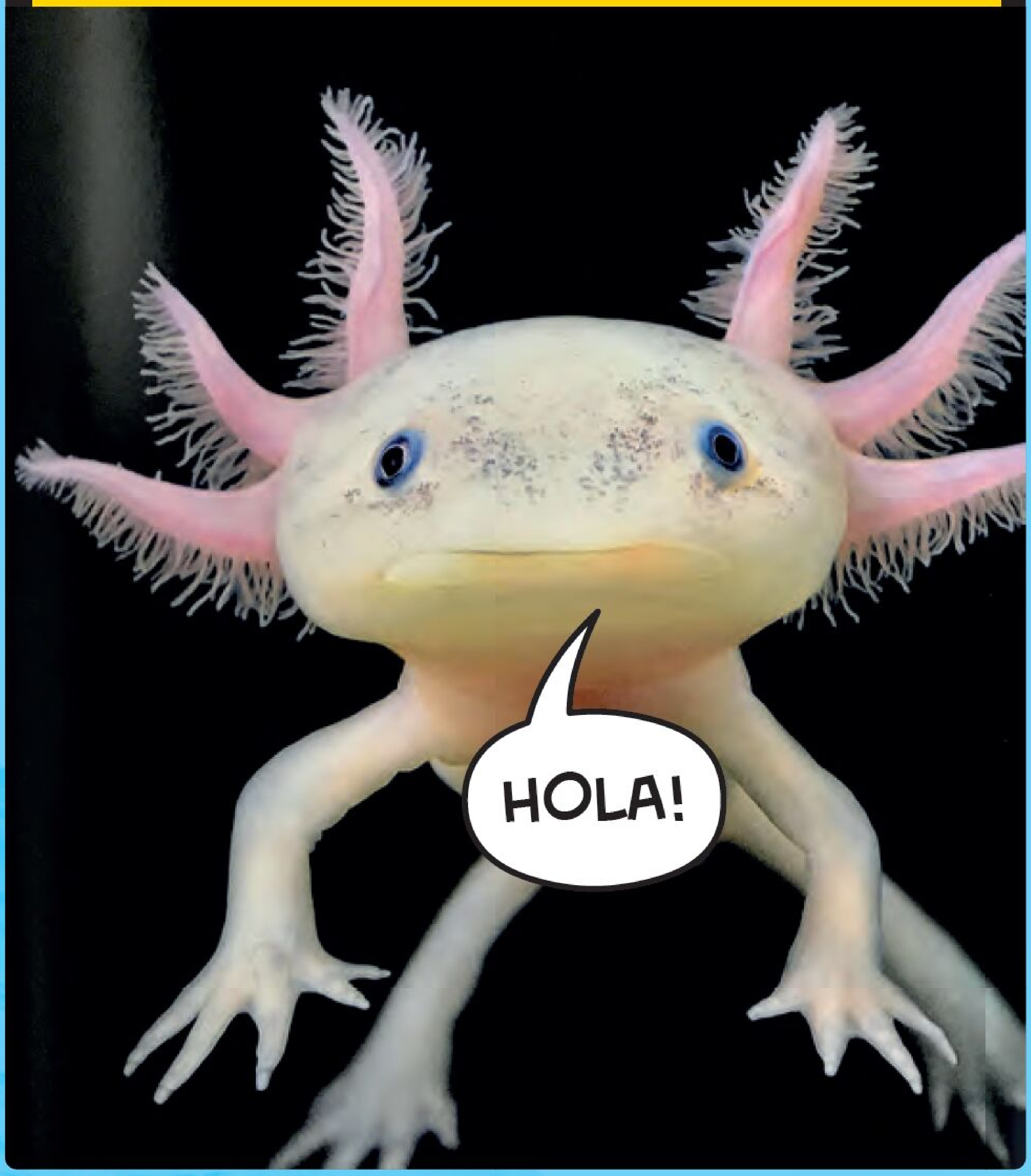
WE'RE FASTER THAN WE LOOK!

10 THE AVERAGE MALE AMERICAN ALLIGATOR GROWS UP TO 3-5M LONG – THAT'S ROUGHLY THE SIZE OF A CANOE!

11 Spider monkeys earned their name because they hang upside down by their tail!

12 GIANT SLOTHS HELP TO PRODUCE AVOCADOS BY POOPING OUT AVOCADO SEEDS – YUCK!

13 **AXOLOTLS** are native to Mexico and can regrow their own body parts!



14 The Incas burnt **LLAMA POOP** to keep warm!

15 THE AMAZON RAINFOREST HAS **390 BILLION** TREES – WOW!

16 Peru is home to more than **15%** of the world's bird species!

17 There are **375** venomous snake species in South America.

18 MARINE TURTLES HAVE EXISTED FOR OVER **100 MILLION** YEARS!

I'M A DINOSAUR!

19 **FLAMINGOS** are actually white, they turn pink from eating shrimp!

20 **427** species of mammal call the Amazon rainforest their home!

21 THE HORNED LIZARD CAN SQUIRT BLOOD FROM ITS EYES!

22

Lemurs have two tongues!

23 CAMELS CAN HAVE ONE OR TWO HUMPS!

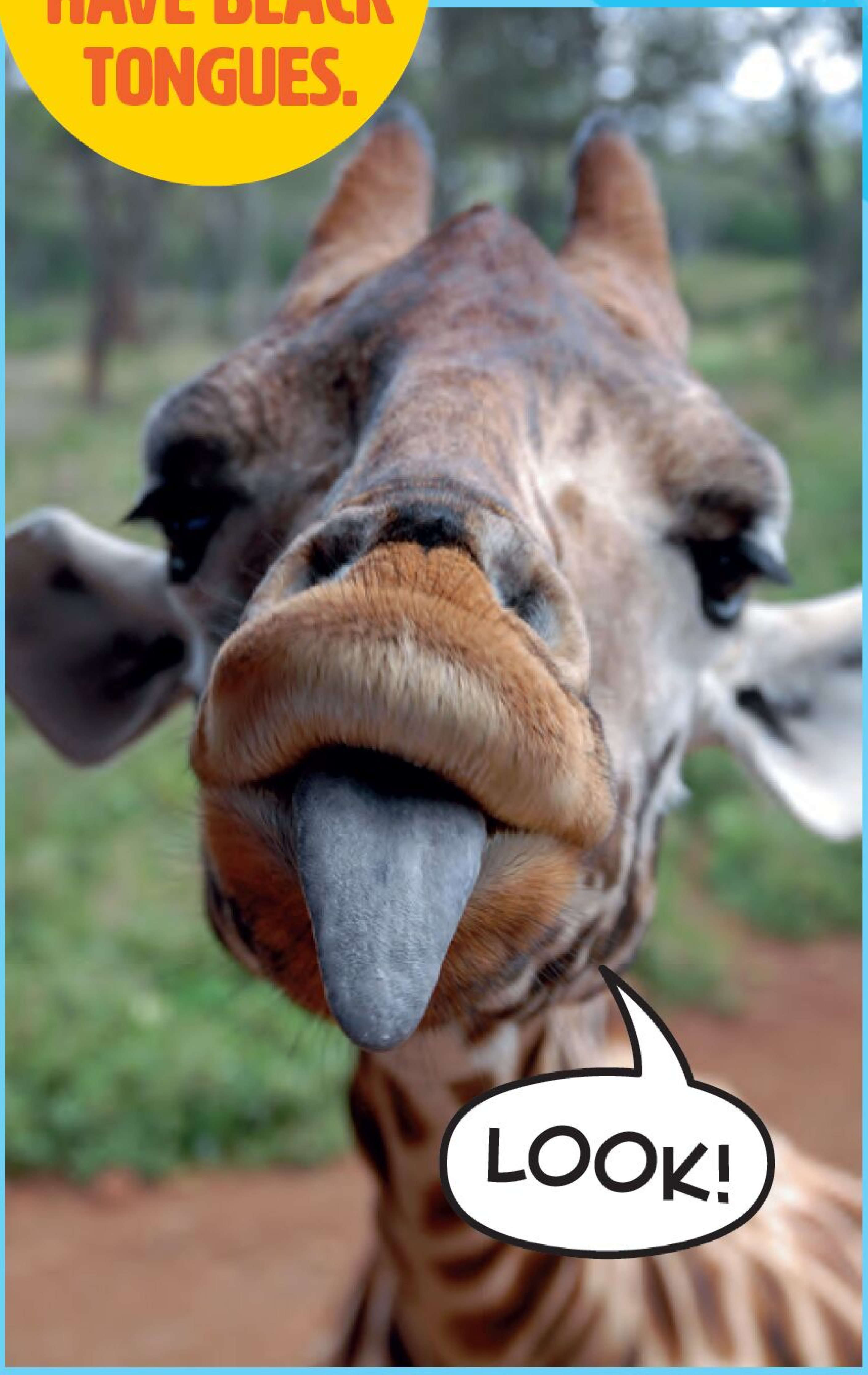
I'VE GOT THE HUMP!

24 ELEPHANTS ARE TERRIFIED OF BEES!

25 The Great Sphinx in Egypt is **20 METRES TALL**. That's like four giraffes stacked on top of each other!

26 HIPPOS CAN'T SWIM!

27 GIRAFFES HAVE BLACK TONGUES.



28 Iceland has the least number of spiders in the world!

READY FOR MY CLOSE-UP!

29 Hammerhead sharks are one of the most common animals found in the **PACIFIC OCEAN**.

30 THERE ARE NO FISH, ANIMALS, PLANTS OR ANY KIND OF LIFE IN THE DEAD SEA!

31 COWS ARE THE MOST SACRED ANIMAL IN INDIA.

32

TIGER WEE SMELLS LIKE POPCORN!

IT'S HANDY!
AND WE'RE LEFT-HANDED!

33

PANDAS HAVE SIX DIGITS ON EACH PAW.

34 THE GREAT BARRIER REEF IS HOME TO OVER **1,500** SPECIES OF FISH.

35 **KANGAROOS CAN'T WALK BACKWARDS.**

36 The Asian palm civet's DROPPINGS are used to make coffee!

37

Orangutans eat durian fruit – the **SMELLIEST** fruit in the world!

38 **THERE ARE 1.4 BILLION INSECTS FOR EACH HUMAN ON THE PLANET!**

39 **KOALAS HAVE TWO THUMBS ON EACH HAND!**

WE'RE WOOLLY POPULAR!

40 **THERE ARE MORE SHEEP IN NEW ZEALAND THAN PEOPLE.**

CRAZY CROCODILES

GRAB A PEN AND SEE HOW MANY YOU GET RIGHT – NO PEEKING AT THE ANSWERS!

TRUE OR FALSE?

1 THEY SWALLOW THEIR FOOD WHOLE AS THEY CANNOT CHEW.

TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

2 THEY HAVE AROUND 1,000 TEETH IN THEIR MOUTH.

TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

3 CROCODILES ARE IMMORTAL.

TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

4 THEY ARE ONE OF THE CLOSEST LIVING RELATIVES TO DINOSAURS.

TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

5 SALTWATER CROCODILES ARE THE BIGGEST REPTILES IN THE WORLD.

TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

6 CROCODILES ARE AMPHIBIANS.

TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

7 CROCODILES HAVE THE STRONGEST BITE OF ANY ANIMAL IN THE WORLD.

TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

8 THE AVERAGE LENGTH OF A CROCODILE IS 10 METRES.

TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

9 CROCODILES SLEEP WITH ONE EYE OPEN.

TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

10 ALLIGATORS ARE BABY CROCODILES.

TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

ANSWERS: 1. True. **2.** False, they have between 60-110 teeth depending on the species. **3.** False, they actually have a similar life expectancy to humans, between 70-100 years. **4.** True. **5.** True. **6.** False, they are reptiles. **7.** True. **8.** False, the largest can be around 6 metres. **9.** True. **10.** False, alligators and crocodiles are different animals.

KUNG-FU KINGS!

ANIMALS THAT PACK A PUNCH... OR A KICK!

FUN FACT!
TERROR BIRDS, AN EXTINCT TYPE OF DINOSAUR, USED THEIR FEET TO KILL THEIR PREY. YIKES!

ZEBRAS

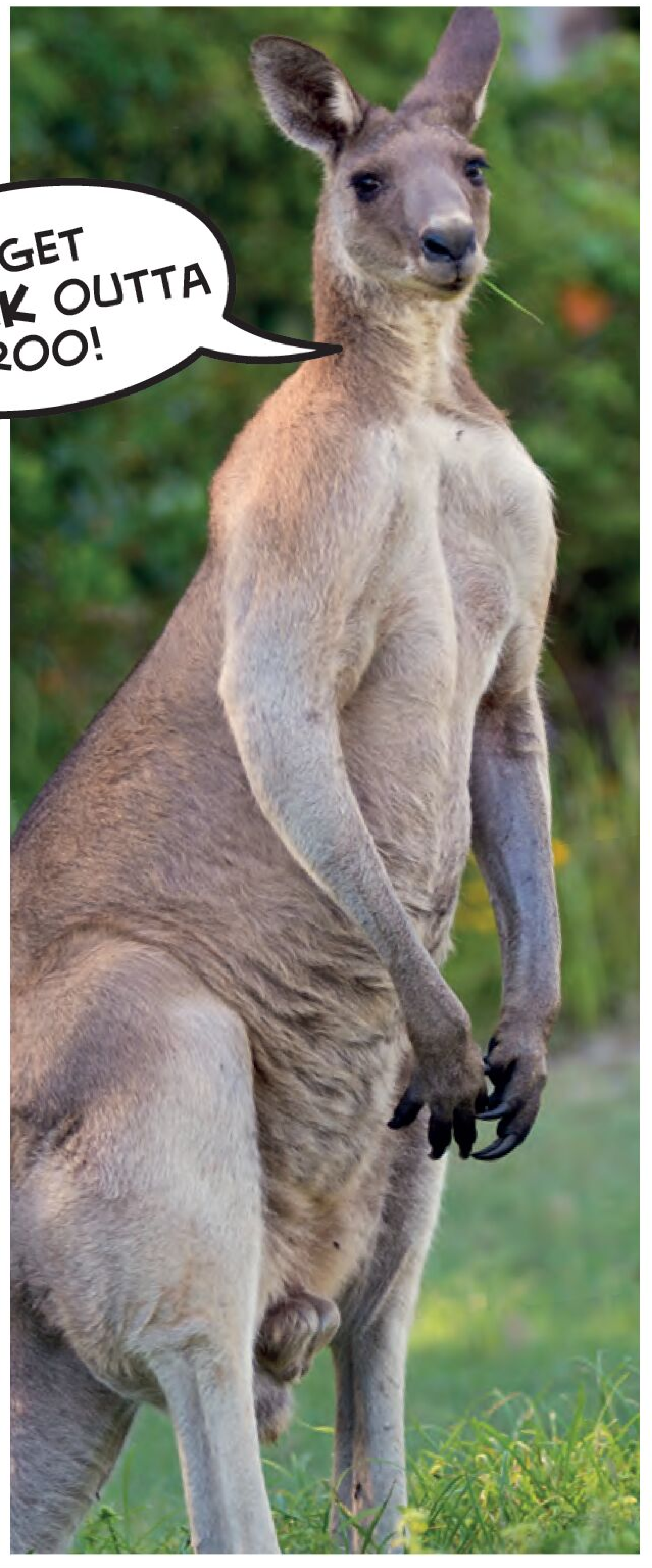
■ A well-placed zebra's kick can be deadly to other zebras and predators! Zebras usually fight amongst each other for females or territory, but also team up to fend off predators like lions, hyenas and cheetahs. They even co-ordinate a semi-circle formation against the predator, and surround any zebra that gets hurt. Team work!

MANTIS SHRIMP

■ Surprisingly, one of the fastest punches in the animal world belongs to the mantis shrimp. Not just fast, but shockingly powerful too. In fact, their punch is as powerful as a bullet and creates a small implosion generating heat, light and sound. They've broken aquarium glass with a single hit, as they can generate a force nearly 2,500 times their body weight in less than 800 micro-seconds.

KANGAROOS

■ Kangaroos have great big biceps they use to slap and 'box' each other for dominance, where the biggest muscles wins. But keep an eye on those feet, because kangaroos are skilled kick-boxers. They can kick with 750 pounds of force, which is four times their own weight!

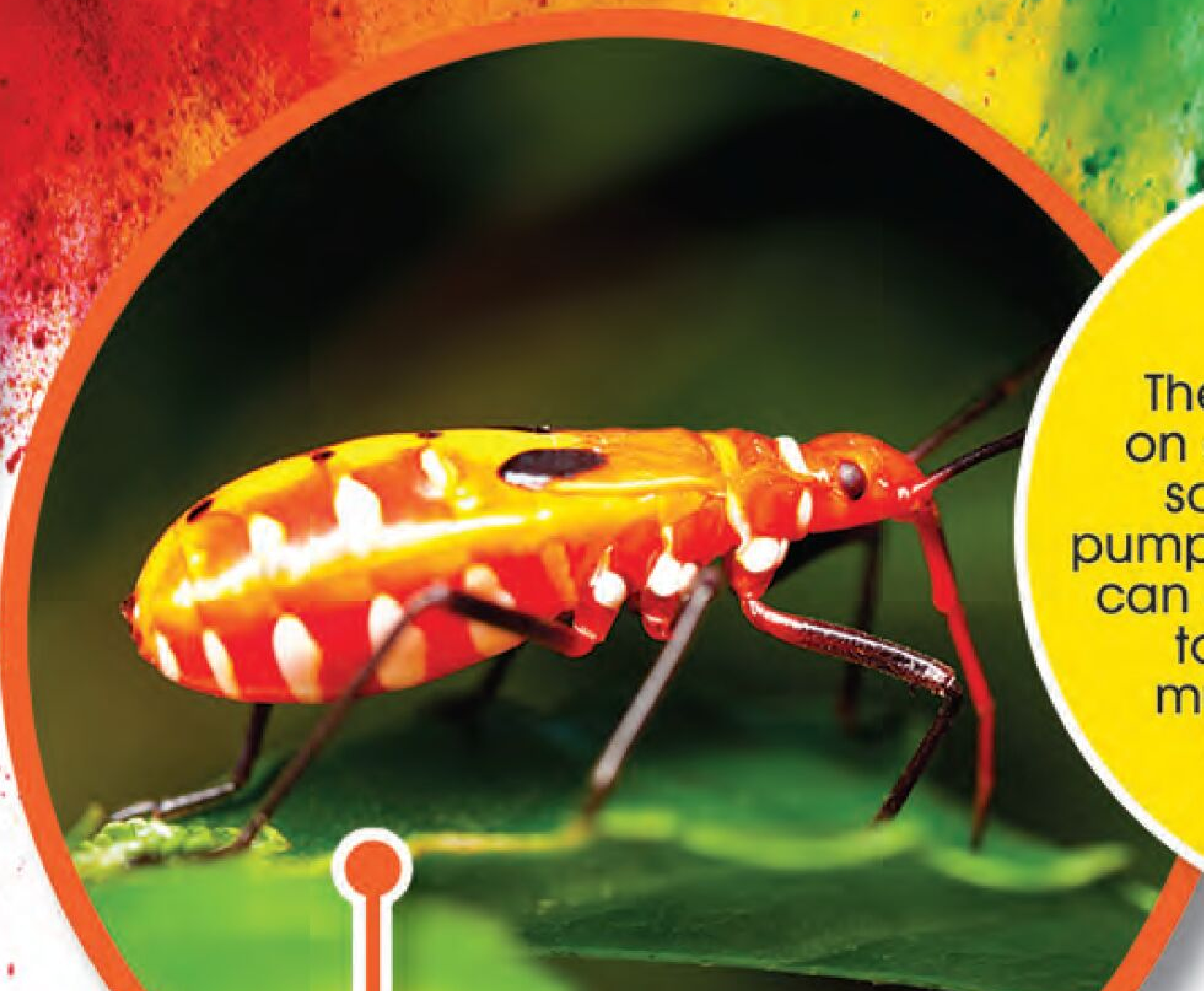


COLOURFUL

SOMEWHERE OVER THE RAINBOW, BUGS ARE BLUE... YELLOW, PURPLE... AND EVERY COLOUR!

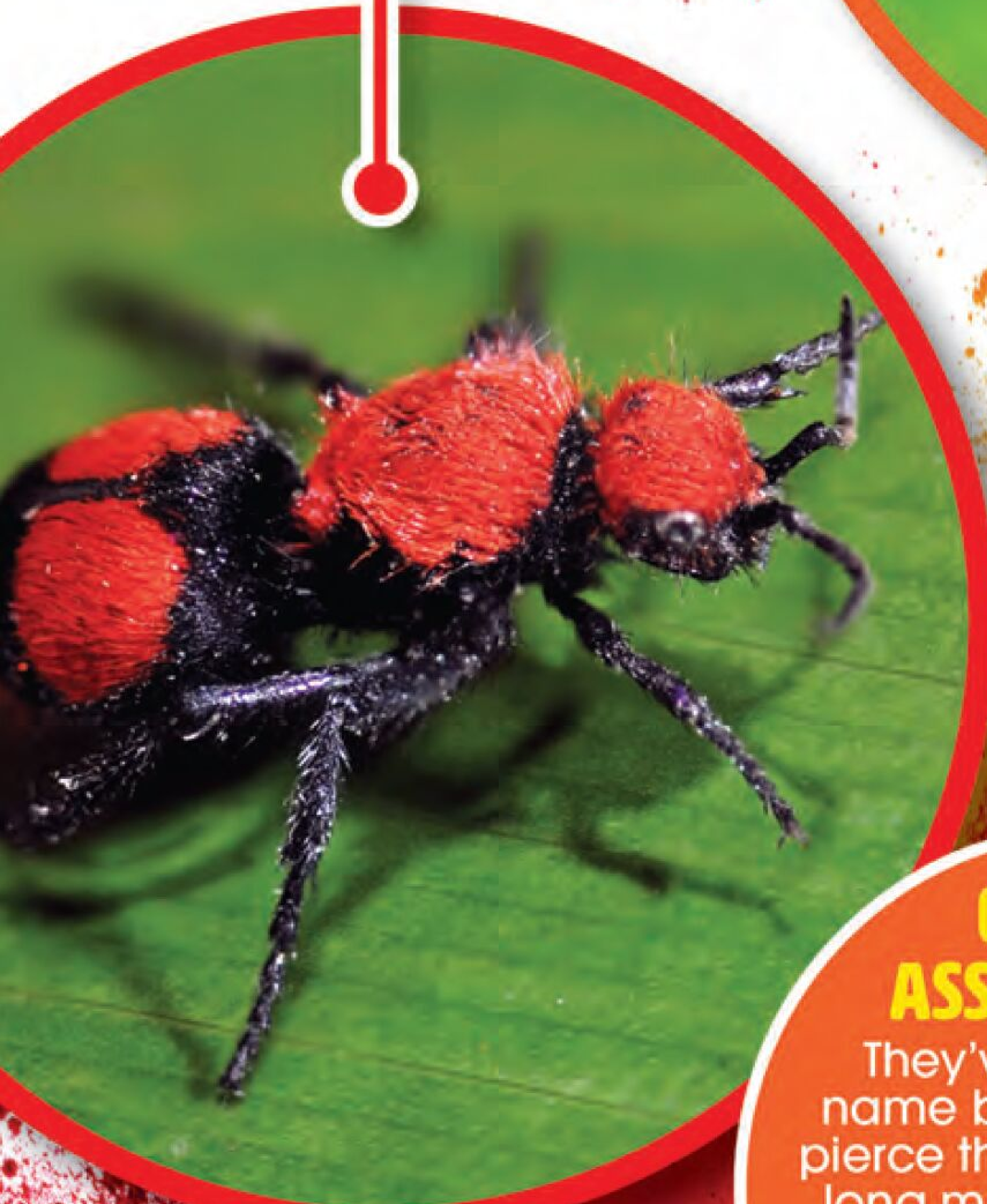
RED VELVET ANT

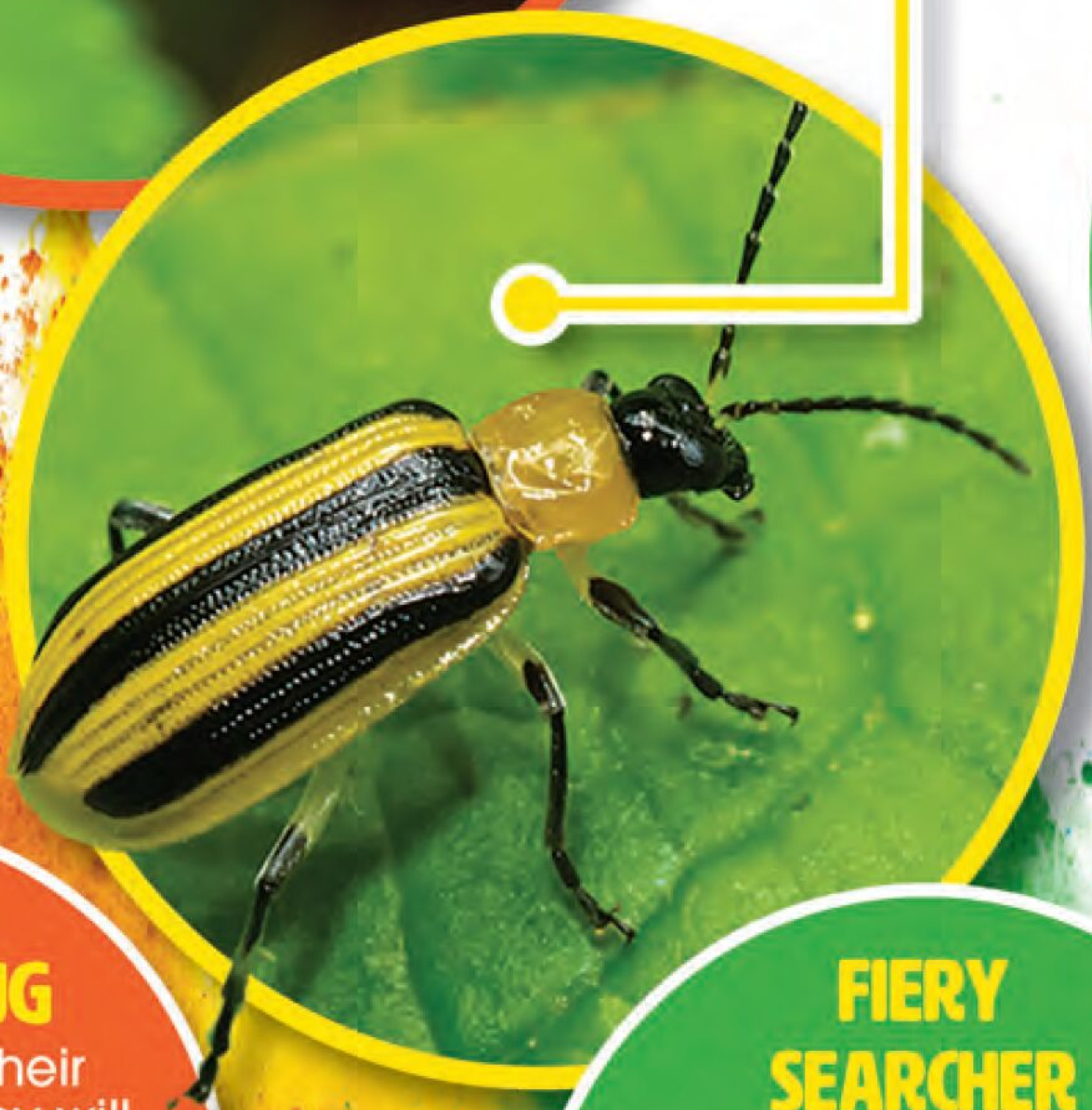
It isn't an ant, but a wasp! They are also known as 'cow killers' because their sting is so painful! Velvet ants are found worldwide, but the red velvet ant is found in the USA.



CUCUMBER BEETLE

They don't just munch on cucumbers, but also squash, melons and pumpkins. They're small, but can cause huge damage to crops with adults munching the leaves and their larvae eating the roots and stems!





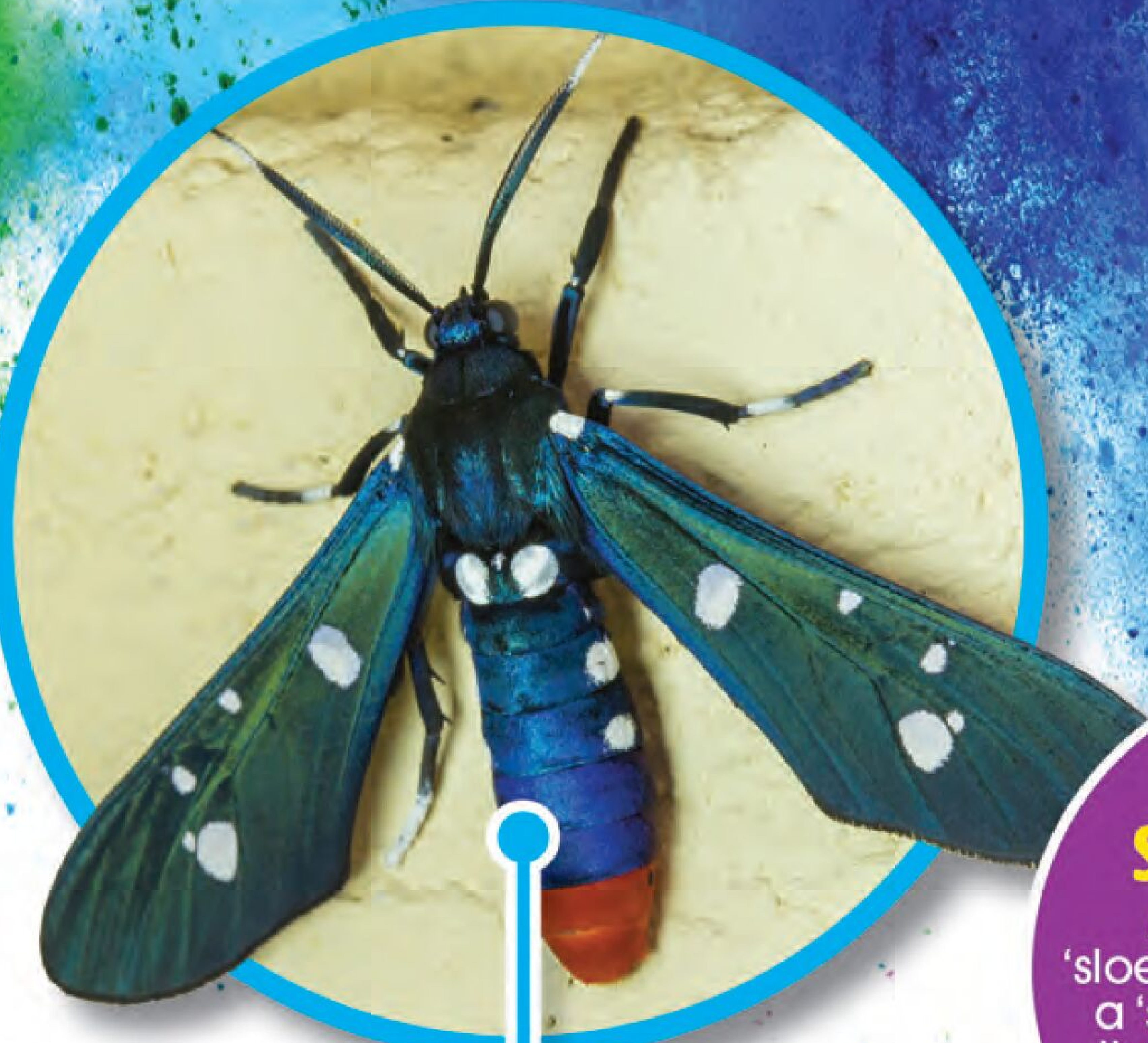
ORANGE ASSASSIN BUG

They've earned their name because they will pierce their prey with their long mouthpieces. They are also known as 'kissing bugs' or 'bloodsuckers' because they will suck the blood from their prey!

FIERY SEARCHER CATERPILLAR HUNTER

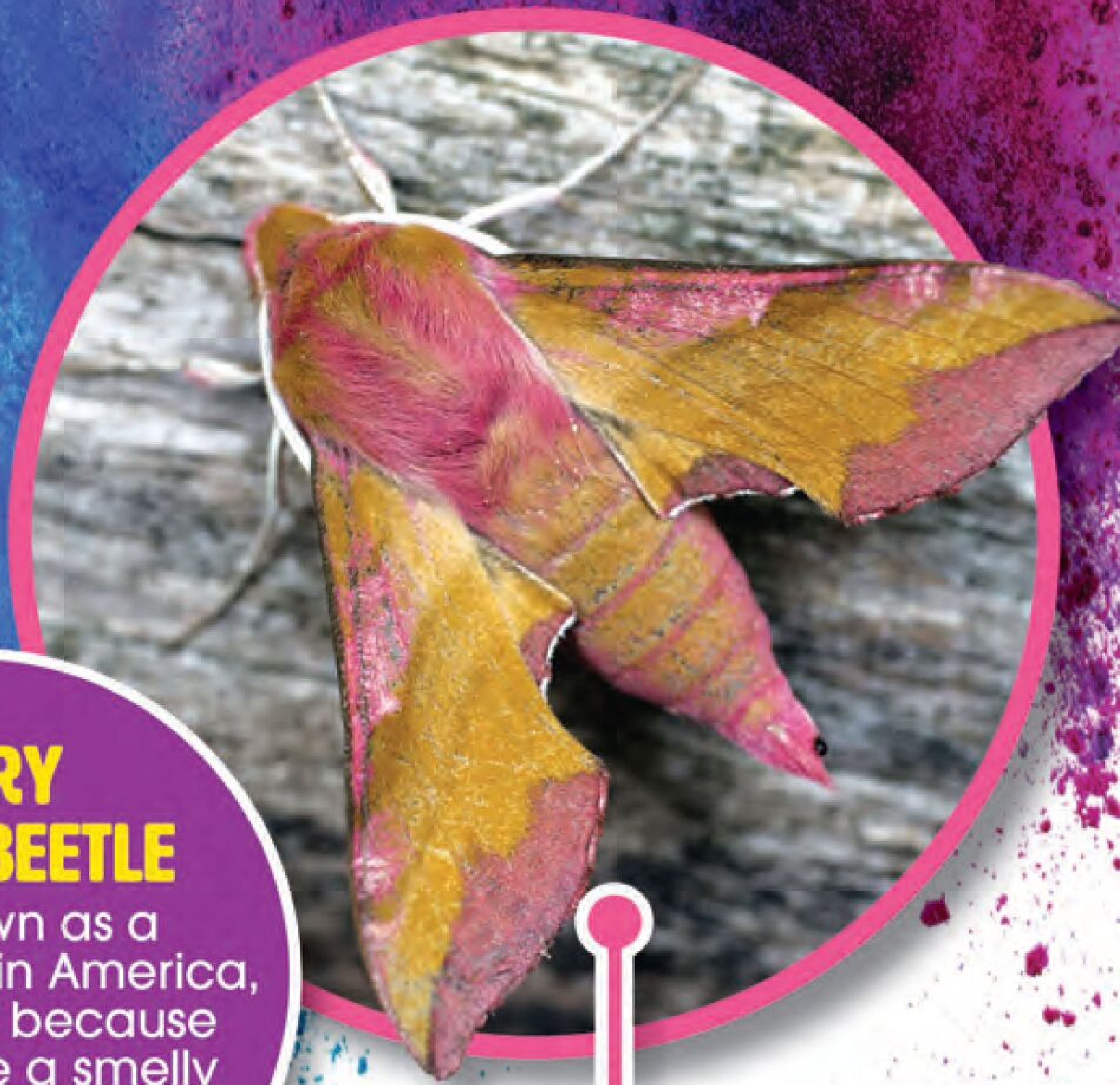
As the name suggests, they hunt caterpillars but are so fast on the ground, they're known as the cheetah of the insect world!

CRITTERS



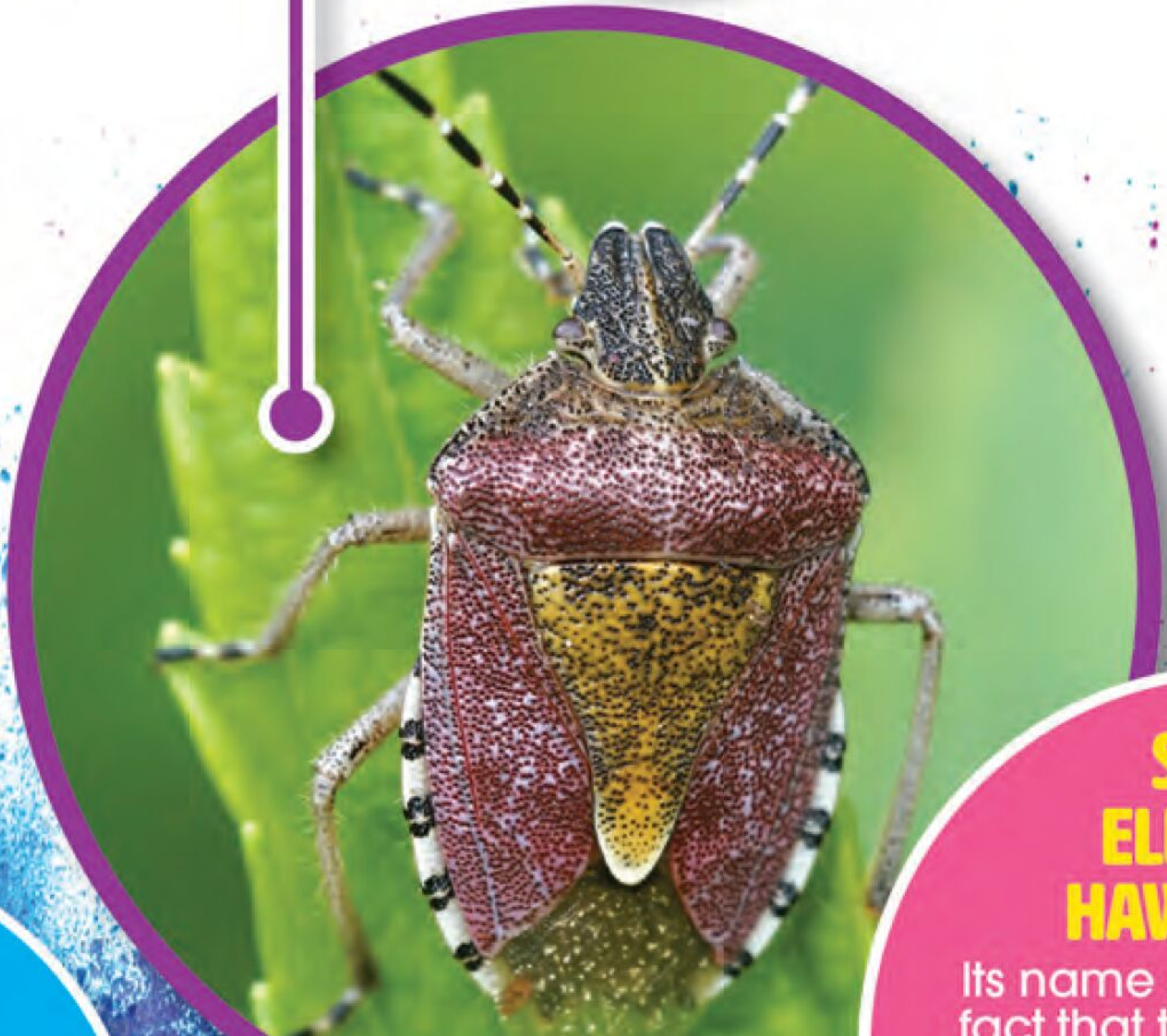
POLKA DOT WASP MOTH

They're native to the Caribbean Islands. They look just like a stinging wasp which keeps hungry birds away, but they only live 5–10 days.



SMALL ELEPHANT HAWK-MOTH

Its name comes from the fact that the caterpillar of this species looks like an elephant's trunk. To scare away predators, it can make itself look bigger by pulling in its head and puffing out its neck!



HAIRY SHIELD BEETLE

Also known as a 'sloe bug' or, in America, a 'stink bug' because they release a smelly liquid when they are threatened.

WORLD'S WEIRDEST SHARKS!

YOU WON'T BELIEVE WHAT SWIMS BENEATH THE WAVES!

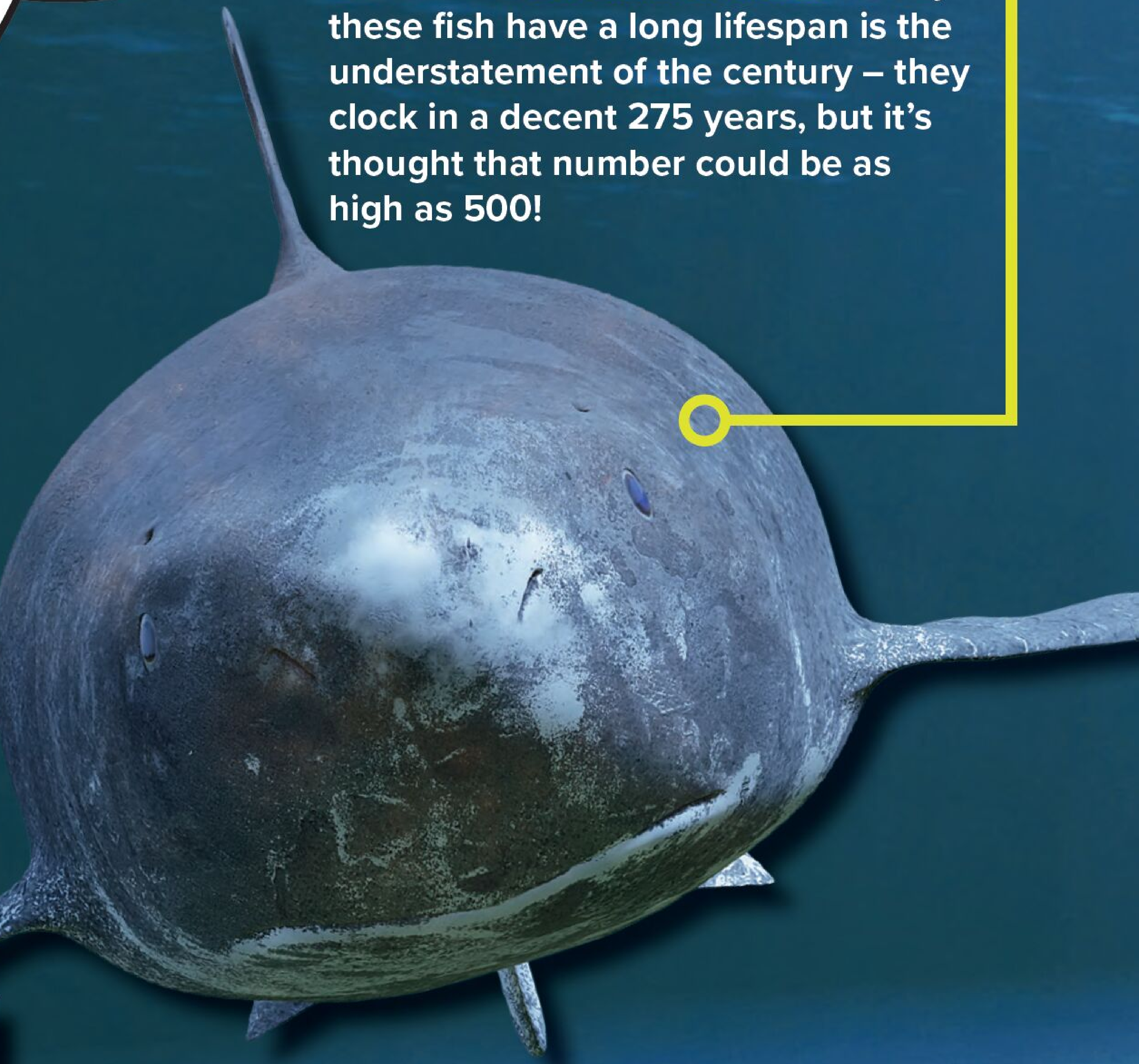
HEE-HEE... YOU'LL NEVER SPOT ME!

CARPET SHARK

The **carpet shark** is also known as the wobbegong, which is Australian Aboriginal for 'shaggy beard'. The largest species, the spotted wobbegong, grows to a monstrous three metres in length!

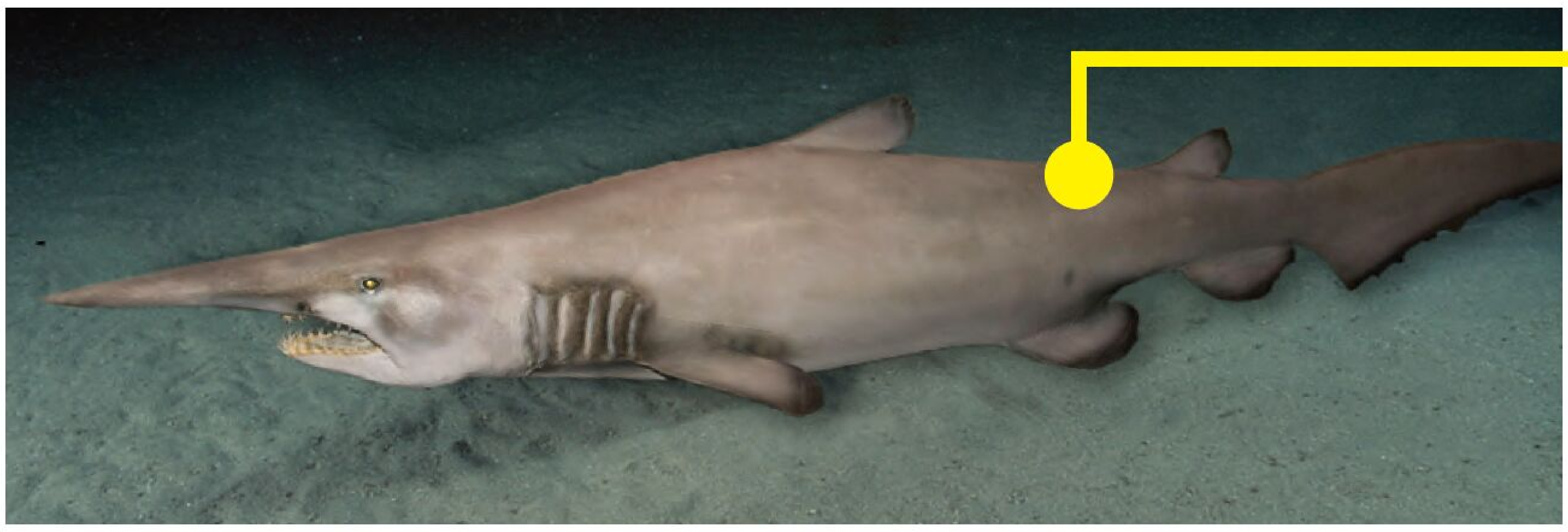
GREENLAND SHARK

Meet the longest-living vertebrae on Earth – the **Greenland shark**! To say these fish have a long lifespan is the understatement of the century – they clock in a decent 275 years, but it's thought that number could be as high as 500!



PORT JACKSON SHARK

They've been around since before the dinosaurs! These ancient sharks not only look peculiar, they lay peculiar eggs too – they're shaped like a corkscrew!

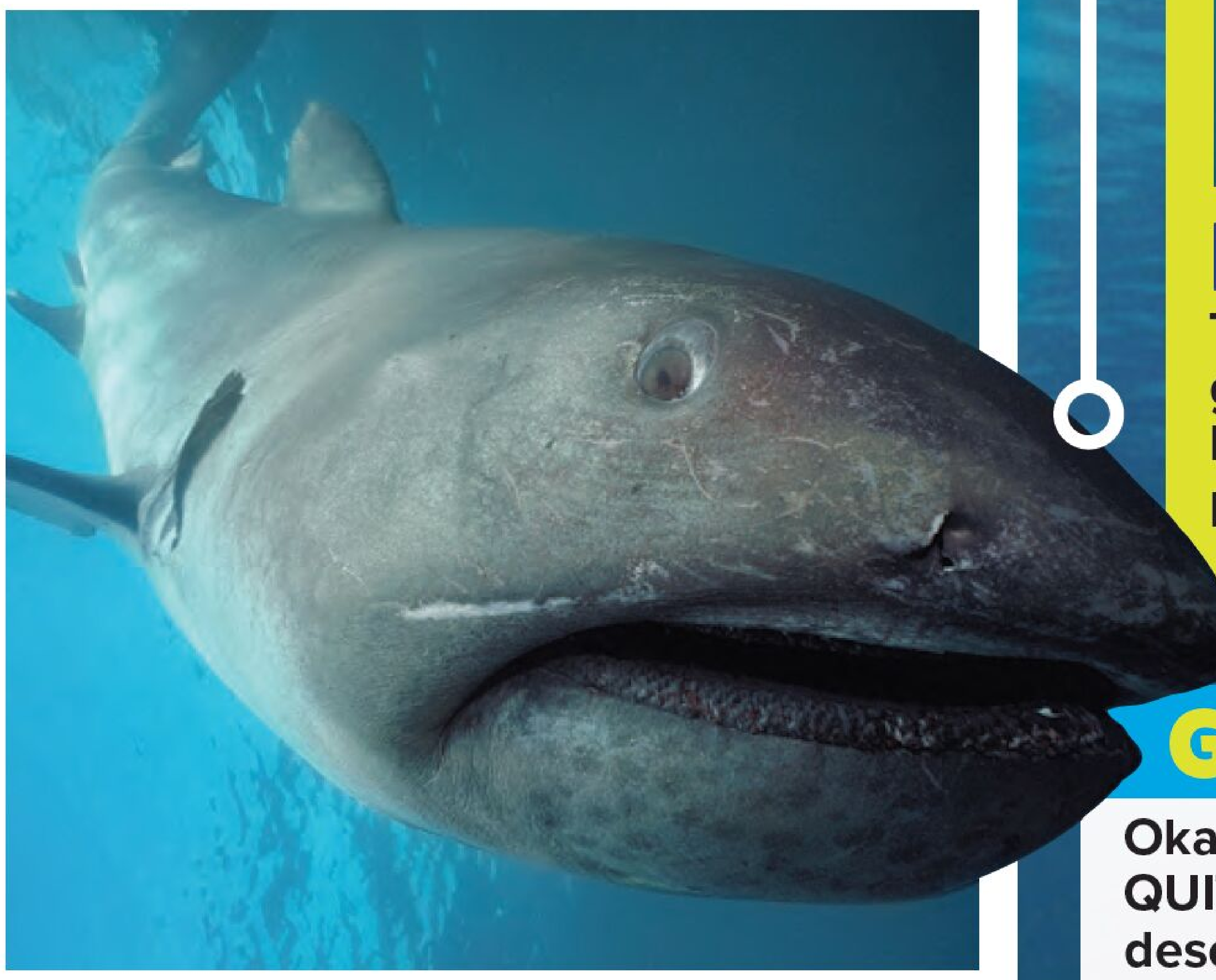


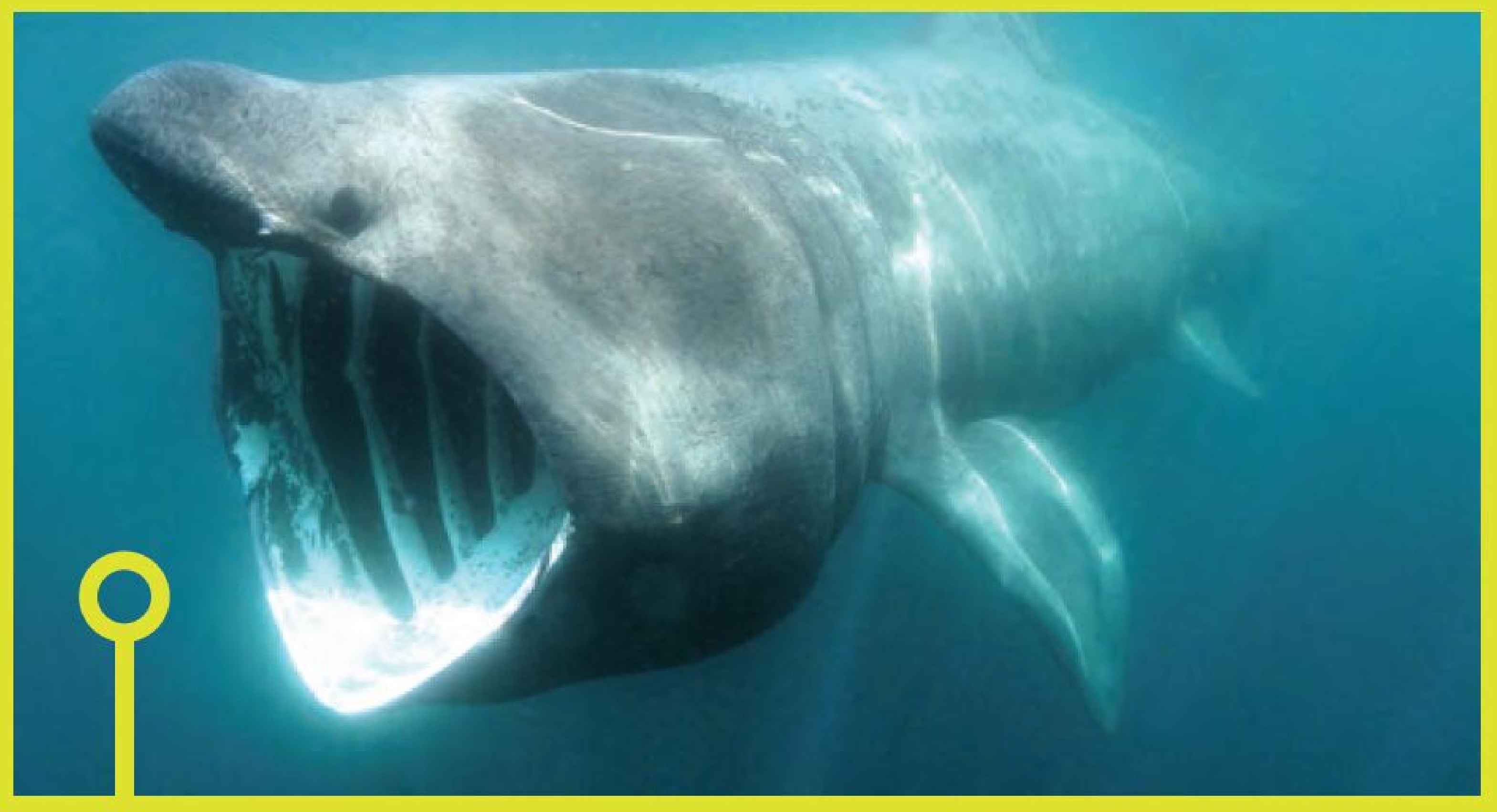
GOBLIN SHARK

Often called a living fossil, this fearsome fish's existence can be traced back several million years. The **goblin shark** is a rare deep-sea shark, and it can extend its whole jaw about 7cm to catch prey!

MEGAMOUTH SHARK

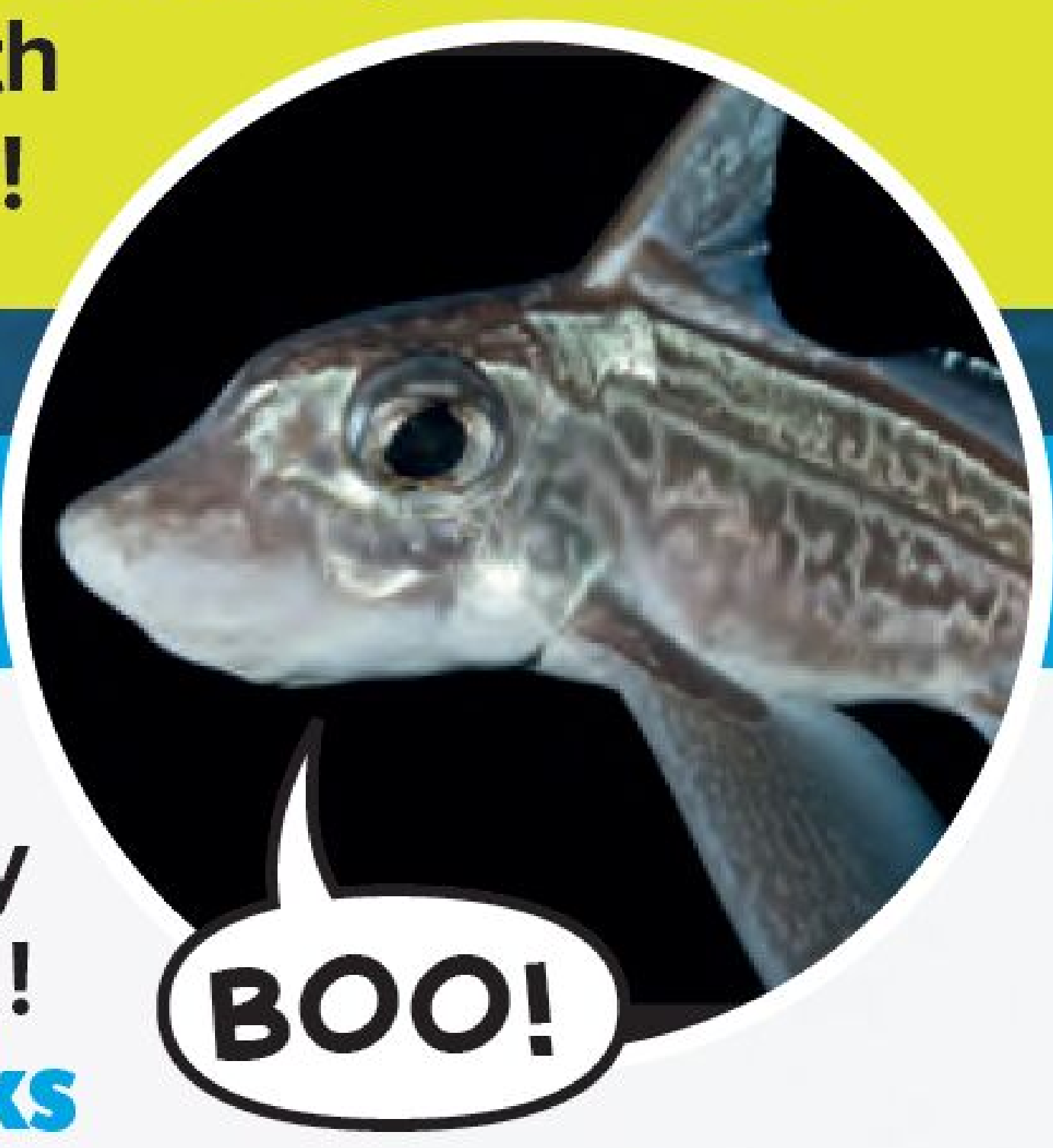
This uber-rare, deep-water fish is known for... you guessed it, its enormous mouth. A **megamouth shark** measuring in at five metres in length would have a mouth that is over one metre wide!





BASKING SHARK

This is the second largest fish in the ocean, growing to just over 15 metres. That's roughly the height of the Hollywood sign! It mainly feeds on plankton by opening its mouth wide and swimming around!

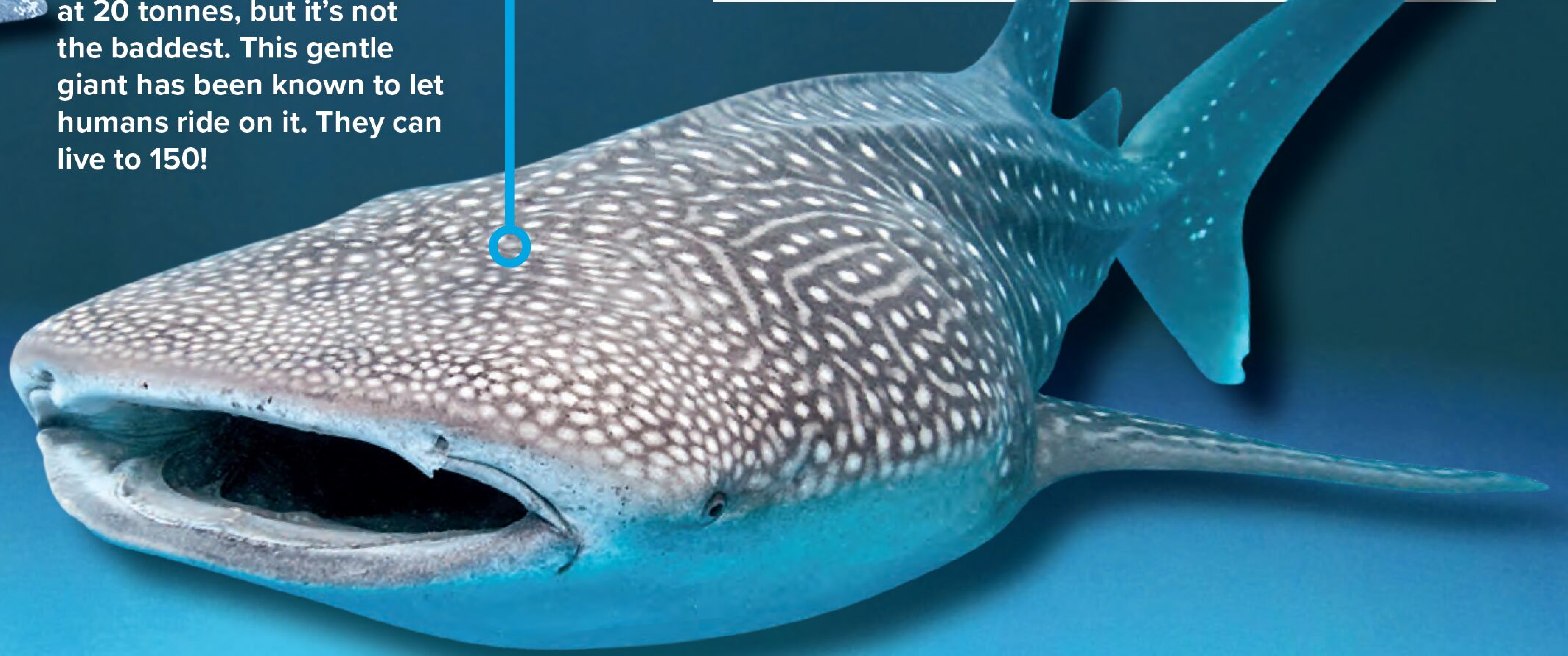


GHOST SHARK

Okay, we'll bite – these aren't QUITE sharks, but they certainly deserve credit for looking weird! Despite their name, **ghost sharks** are chimaeras. Chimaeras are a type of cartilaginous fish. They're deep-sea dwellers and very rarely spotted... but they have haunted the planet for hundreds of millions of years!

WHALE SHARK

It may be the biggest fish in the ocean, weighing in at 20 tonnes, but it's not the baddest. This gentle giant has been known to let humans ride on it. They can live to 150!



FLYING SHARKS!

YOU WON'T BELIEVE HOW HIGH THESE FEROCIOUS FISH CAN JUMP!

Sharks are clever critters and master hunters - they've even adapted a way to catch fast-moving prey which ISN'T in the ocean! This is called breaching and is when a shark breaks through the surface of water by swimming super-fast! It's a rare sight though, because of how much effort it takes from the shark.

SHORTFIN MAKO

The shortfin mako is the fastest species of shark... and the highest jumper! They can reach heights of six metres!

THRESHER SHARK

This unique long tail isn't just for show – it can help propel this flighty fish through the air!

GREAT WHITE

Despite their size – they can reach up to six metres long — great whites are able to breach above water... by over four metres!

WHY?

...WOMBATS POO CUBES

WOMBAT FACT FILE

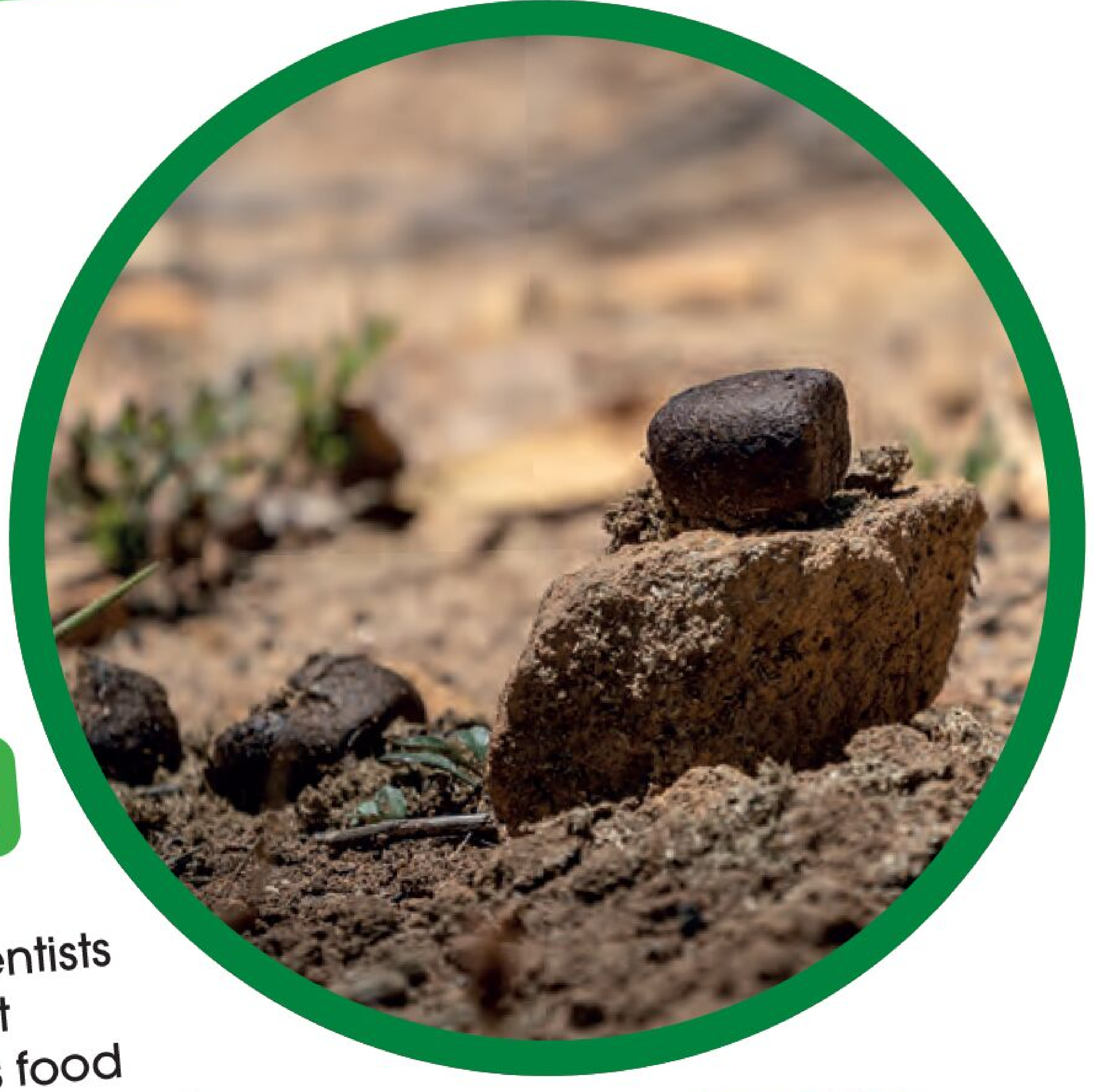
DIET: HERBIVORE (GRASSES, HERBS, ROOTS AND BARK).
POPULATION: BETWEEN 100,000 – 300,000.
LIFESPAN: UP TO 15 YEARS IN THE WILD, AS MUCH AS 20 IN CAPTIVITY.

FUN FACT!

A WOMBAT'S GUTS CAN HOLD FOOD FOR 70 HOURS, AND IT CAN TAKE THEM UP TO SIX DAYS TO DIGEST A MEAL!

SHAPE OF POO

Most animal droppings look like small balls or longer sausages, but when a wombat goes to the loo, they're able to produce a shape unlike any other animal… a cube! Scientists far and wide have been left baffled by this unusual poo until a study in 2021 revealed how the animal creates their cubed chunks of waste!



BOTTOM BLOCKS

Producing cubes from your bottom can't be an easy task. However, scientists discovered that for wombats, it really is! As the wombat's food is digested and moves through their intestines, the walls of the organ continuously expand and contract from all sides as many as 40,000 times, constantly squishing the waste as it passes. It's this journey through their 10-metre-long intestines that causes the poop to be squashed into perfect little cubes!

I'M A SUPER POOPER!

DID YOU KNOW?

WOMBATS CAN RUN AT SPEEDS OF UP TO 25MPH PER HOUR!

PRACTICAL POOP

Wombats are able to produce as many as eight, 2cm-sized poo cubes in one go. Once they have what they need, they gather the droppings and place them strategically around their territory. It's thought that they do this to communicate with other wombats – either warning them to stay out of their home or, alternatively, trying to attract a mate. Their cubed shape means that they won't roll away and the poop will stay POO-t!

FUN FACT!

WOMBATS CAN POOP AS MANY AS 100 CUBES A DAY!

SET SPEED

SIT BACK, PUT YOUR FEET UP, AND RELAX AS WE TAKE A LOOK AT

SLOTH

Officially the slowest mammal on the planet, three-toed sloths spend approximately 15 hours a day sleeping. While awake, they can be found eating or resting in the treetops of Central and South America. Their slow movements help them to preserve energy, since their survival relies on a very low-calorie diet of leaves and twigs. Can you believe that moss even grows in their fur because they move THAT slow?!

READY, SET, GO!

GREENLAND SHARK

Among some of the largest sharks in the world, Greenland sharks have been known to grow up to lengths of 6.4 metres – that's similar to great white sharks! Moving at average speeds of only 0.76 miles per hour, Greenland sharks use their stealth to sneak up on prey whilst they sleep, so have no real need for speed.

TORTOISE

Reaching speeds of less than one mile per hour, tortoises rely on their built-in, armoured shells to protect them from any predators' sharp teeth and strong jaws. The reason behind them being super-slow is that they are herbivores (plant eaters), so they can take life easy considering they don't need to chase or hunt their food.

I'M OFFI-SHELL-Y SLOW!

TO SLOW!

SOME OF THE WORLD'S SLOWEST ANIMALS. THERE'S REALLY NO RUSH!

MANATEE

Manatees, which are often nicknamed sea cows, swim through the shallow waters of the Americas and the Caribbean at around five miles per hour. On average, adult manatees can reach lengths of more than three metres and weigh around 450kg — that's roughly the same weight as a grand piano! Since they don't have any true predators to worry about, they spend their days gliding peacefully through the water.

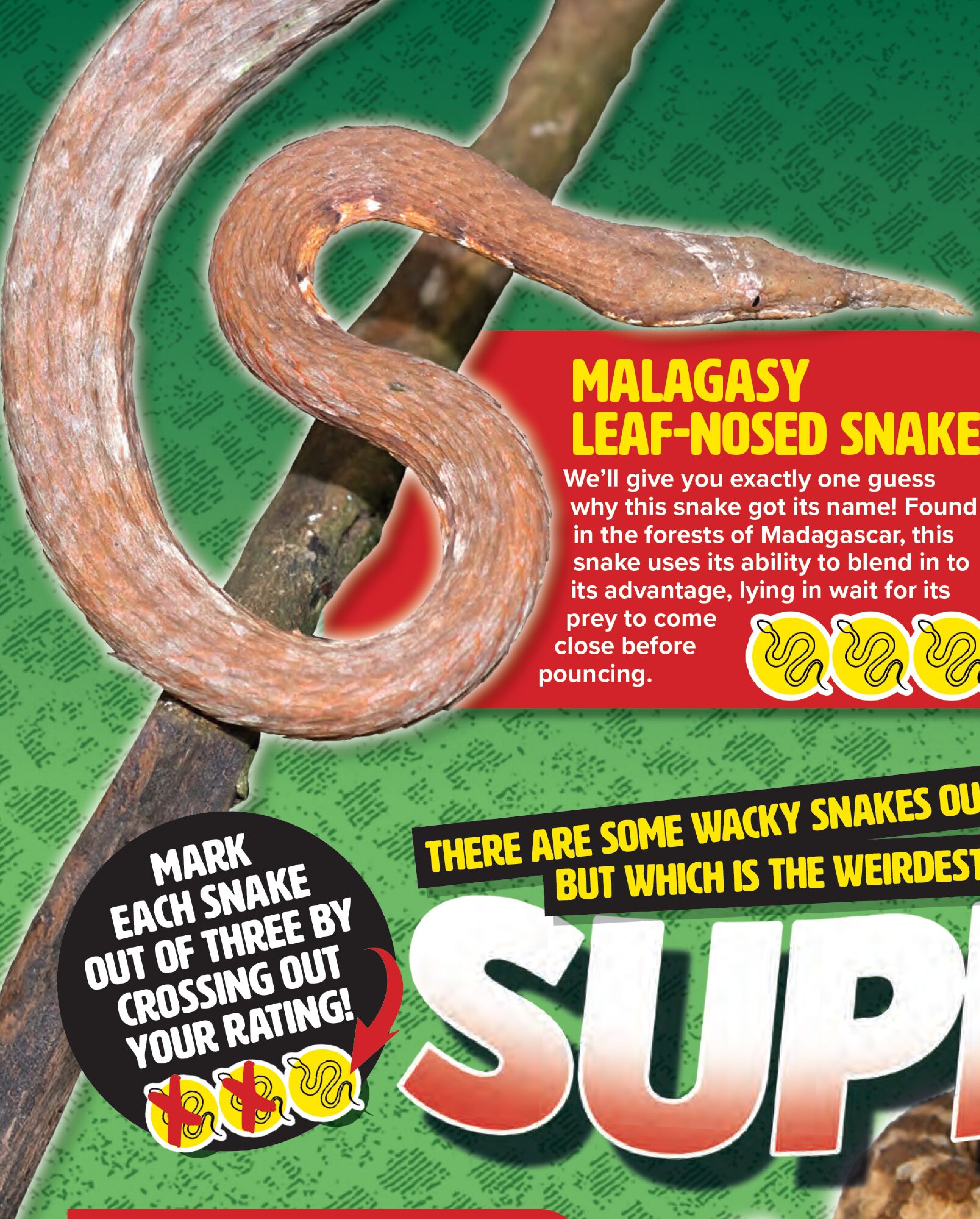
KOALA

When awake, koalas will spend much of their time high up in the trees munching on eucalyptus leaves. However, since their diet is lacking in nutrients, they have incredibly low energy levels – that's why they sleep for approximately 16 hours per day! Now THAT'S a nap!

I JUST DO THE **BEAR** MINIMUM!

SNAIL

One of the slowest animals in the world, the common garden snail moves at speeds of 0.28cm per second. Their speed – or lack of – is as a result of their singular foot, which is able to move along the ground thanks to the mucus they release as they go. Lovely...



MALAGASY LEAF-NOSED SNAKE

We'll give you exactly one guess why this snake got its name! Found in the forests of Madagascar, this snake uses its ability to blend in to its advantage, lying in wait for its prey to come close before pouncing.

WHAT DID THE PIRATE SAY WHEN HE FOUND A SNAKE ON HIS SHIP?

SLITHER ME TIMBERS!

THERE ARE SOME WACKY SNAKES OUT THERE... BUT WHICH IS THE WEIRDEST? YOU DECIDE!

SUPER

MARK EACH SNAKE OUT OF THREE BY CROSSING OUT YOUR RATING!

EMERALD TREE BOA

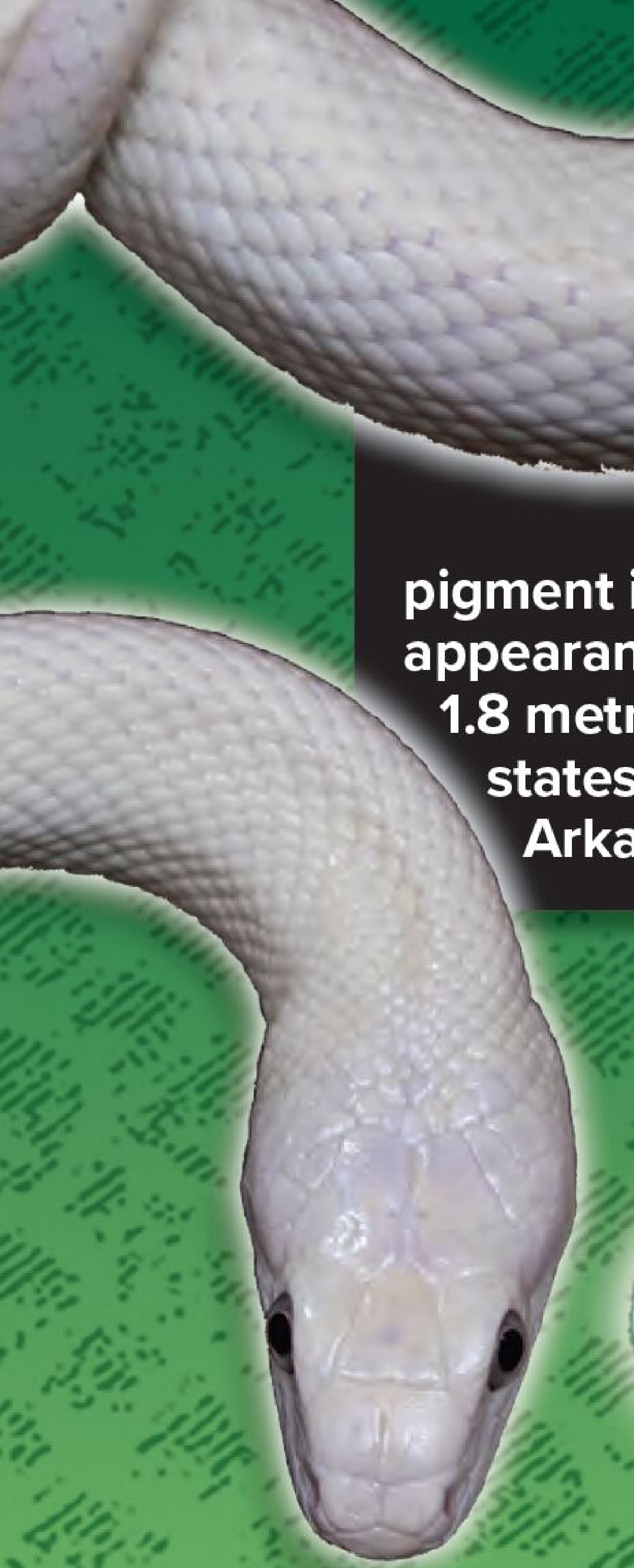
Can you imagine not being hungry for months on end? This brightly coloured boa's slow metabolism means it doesn't need to eat or poop as often, so it doesn't leave strong scent trails for predators to pick up on.

LUNCH? NO THANKSSS!

SAHARAN HORNED VIPER

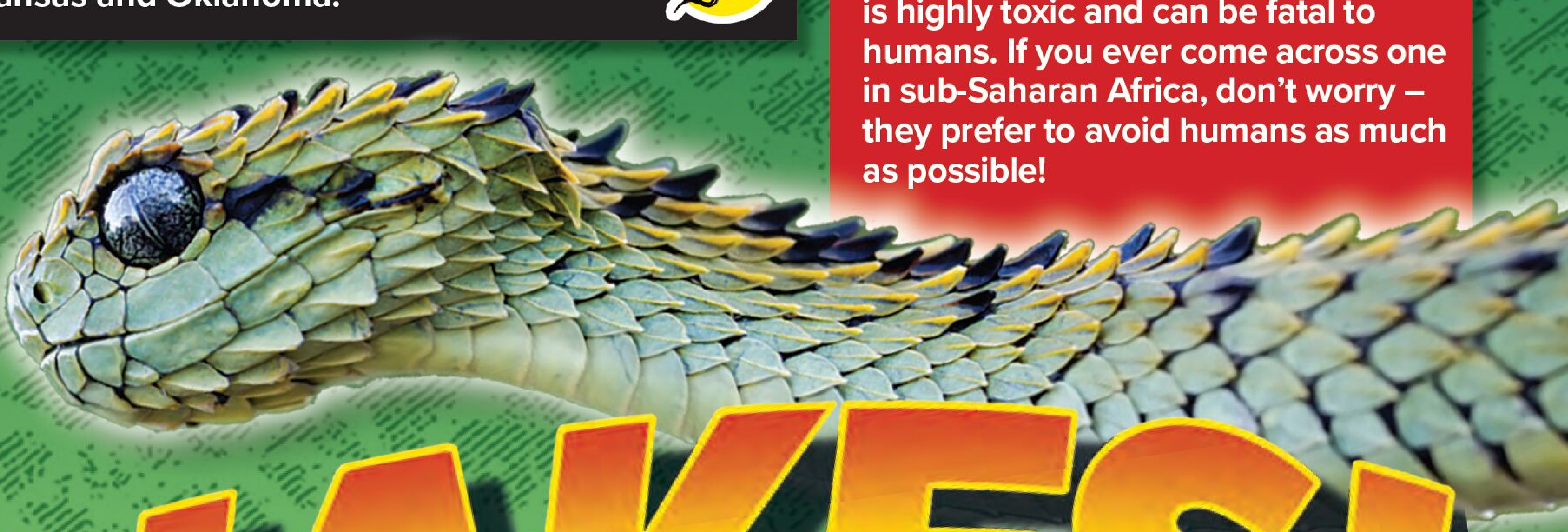
This venomous desert snake is known for its spiky horns, which were the stuff of folklore legend, many believing these snakes had magical powers. Ancient Egyptians are thought to have embalmed and mummified them!

SNAKES!



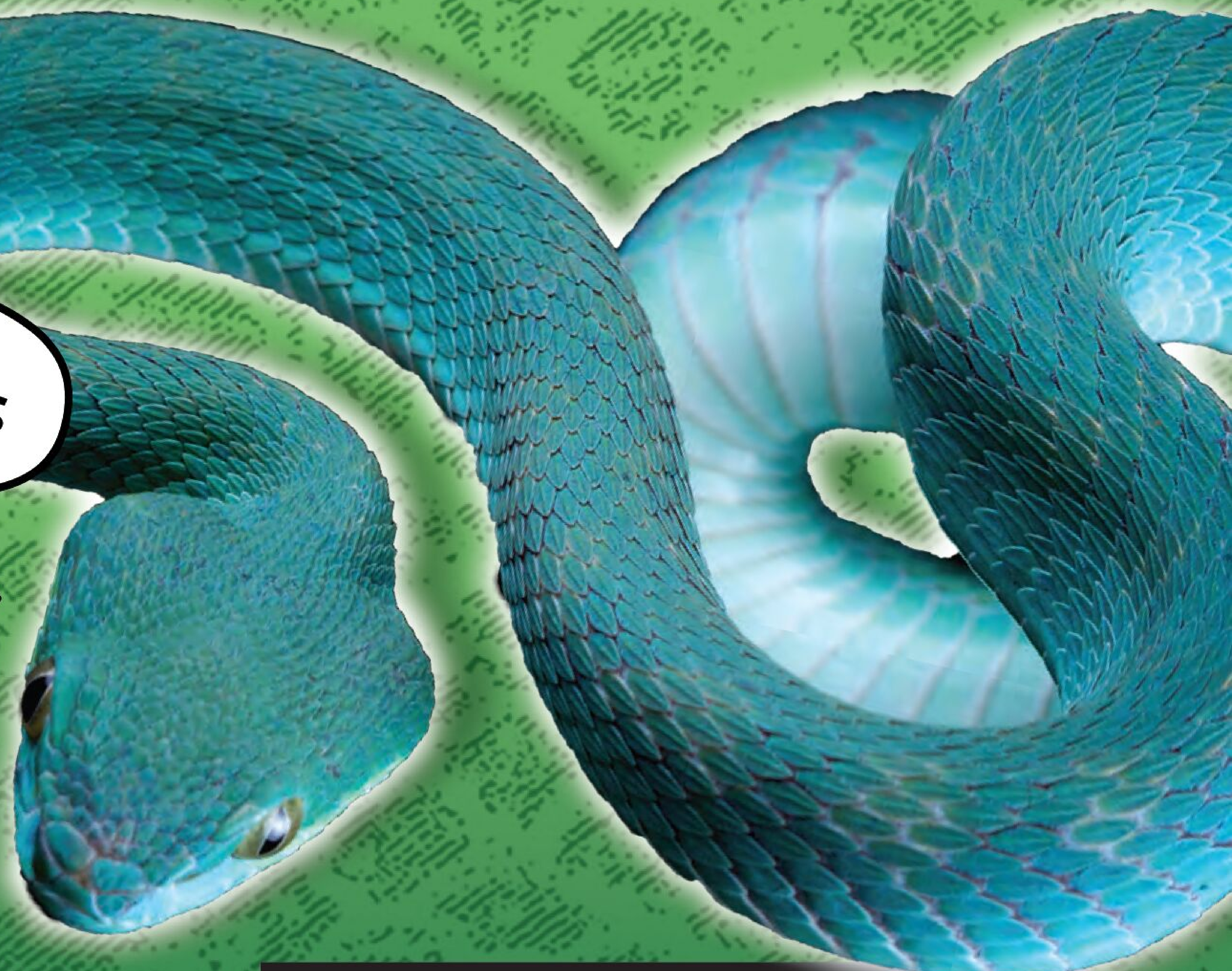
LEUCISTIC TEXAS RAT SNAKE

This variation of the Texas rat snake doesn't have much pigment in its skin and eyes, giving it a pale appearance! This snowy snake can grow to over 1.8 metres long and can be found in the US states of (surprise, surprise!) Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas and Oklahoma.



AFRICAN HAIRY BUSH VIPER

These bristly carnivores are covered in sharp scales which protect them from sideways attacks... though you wouldn't want to get too close to this snake, as its venom is highly toxic and can be fatal to humans. If you ever come across one in sub-Saharan Africa, don't worry – they prefer to avoid humans as much as possible!



BLUE INSULARIS

The bright viper is the rare blue variety of the white-lipped island pit viper found in Indonesia. It's an aggressive predator, not to be messed with, and its potent venom can cause severe internal and external bleeding.

HAIR-LARIOUS OF THE ANIMAL KINGDOM!

EVEN ANIMALS HAVE BAD HAIR DAYS!

TUFTY TOP!
Looks like they took too much off the top of this marmoset!

I ASKED FOR A SHORT BACK AND SIDES AND THEY FORGOT THE SIDES!

ALPACA ME BAGS!

- You'd want your money back if you came out the hairdresser's looking like this!

PUNKED!
This blue crowned pigeon is rocking a mohawk!

ELECTRIFYING!

- This red colobus monkey is in for a shock if they look in a mirror!

GOLDILOCKS

- The Peruvian guinea pig is often mistaken for a wig because of its long hair that can grow up to 14 inches long!

CURLY WURLY!

- The frillback pigeon's wing shield feathers are covered in curls!

HAIRDOS

BLOWOUT!

Someone put a bit too much volume into this cotton-top tamarin's blowdry!

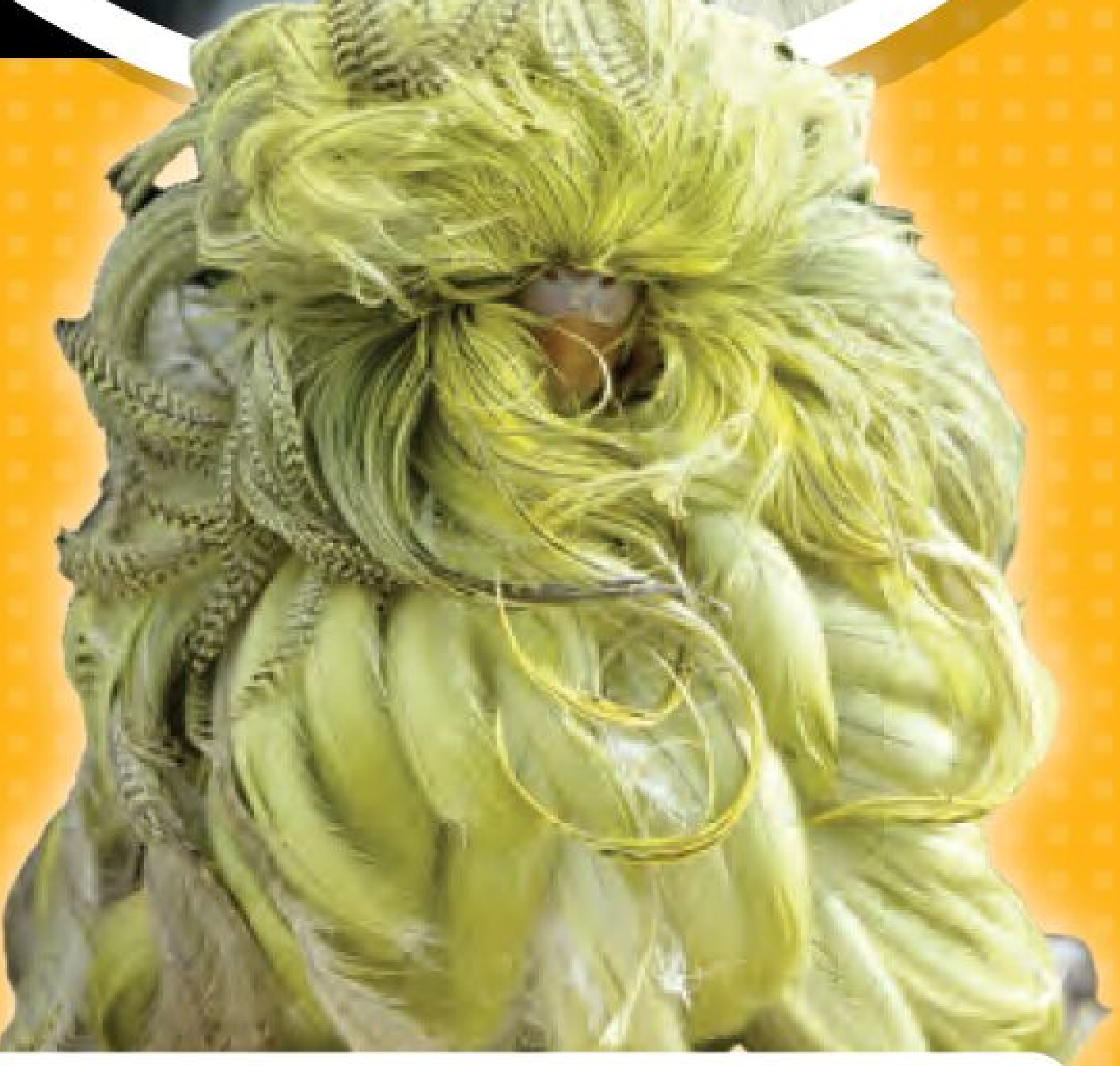
PUFF BALL!

I USE ROOSTER BOOSTER!

We're not sure how the Holland dwarf rooster can see under that giant ball of feathers on its head.

JUST DANDY!

This daft tree frog has made himself a wig out of a dandelion!



IT WON'T BUDGE!

Feather duster budgerigars have a condition that means their feathers don't stop growing like normal budgies.

NOT EMU-SED!

We hope that perm wasn't perm-anent!

MEGA MOP!

Believe it or not, there's a Komondor dog hidden under all that hair!

IT'S CURTAINS FOR ME!

HOPPING MAD!

The rockhopper penguin is always ready to rock!

WORLD'S WEIRDEST

ANIMAL NAMES

FAKE OR REAL?

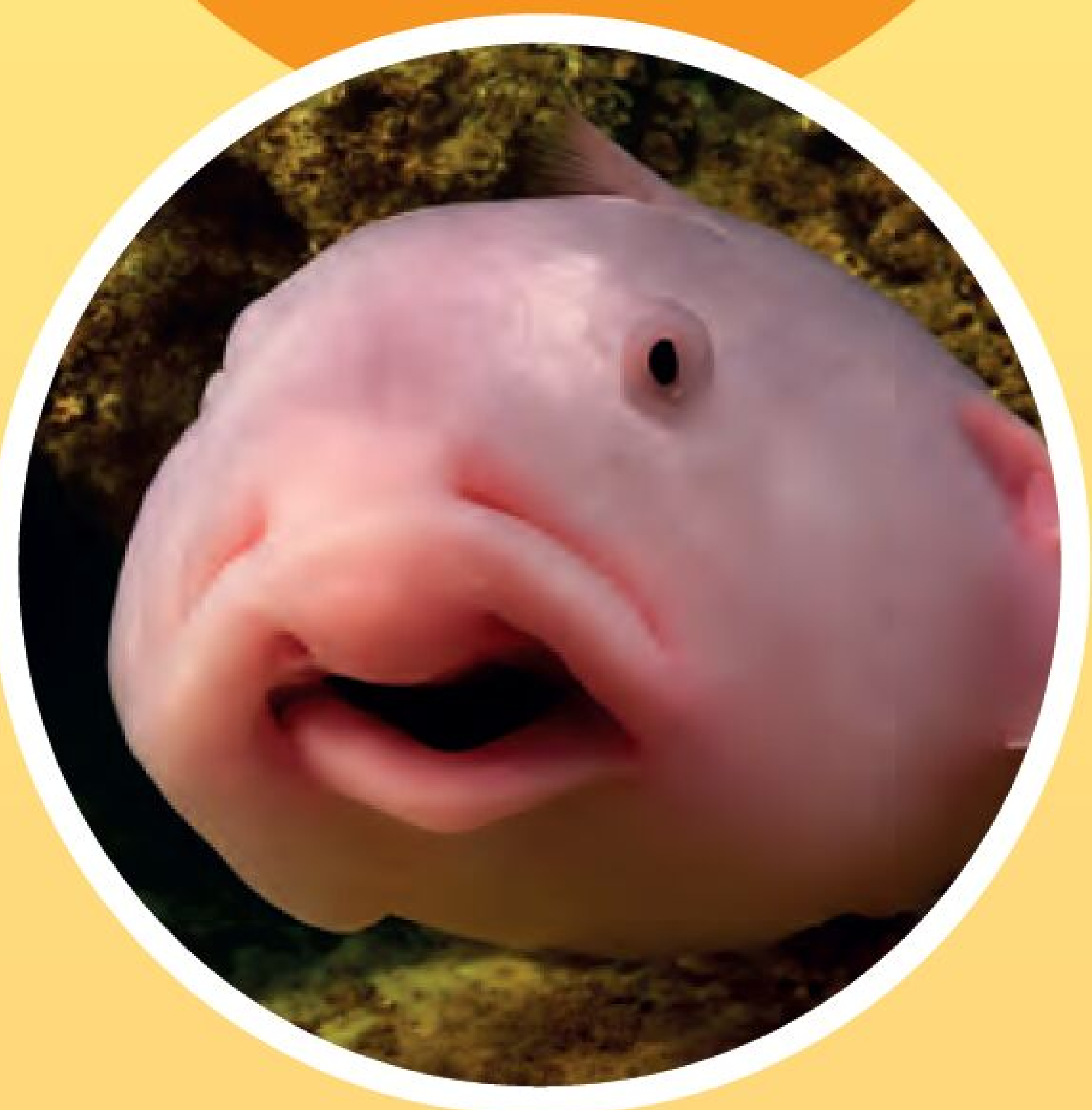
SOME OF THESE ANIMALS REALLY DO EXIST! CAN YOU TELL FACT FROM FICTION?

1 Chicken Turtle
FAKE ☐
REAL ☐

2 Lollipop Eagle
FAKE ☐
REAL ☐

3 Fried Egg Jellyfish
FAKE ☐
REAL ☐

4 Sarcastic Fringehead
FAKE ☐
REAL ☐



5 Flaming Flamingo
FAKE ☐
REAL ☐

6 Screaming Hairy Armadillo
FAKE ☐
REAL ☐

7 Waterfall Squid
FAKE ☐
REAL ☐

8 Blobfish
FAKE ☐
REAL ☐

9 Motorway Moth
FAKE ☐
REAL ☐

10 King Chinchilla
FAKE ☐
REAL ☐

ANSWERS: 1. Real 2. Fake 3. Real 4. Real 5. Fake 6. Real 7. Fake 8. Real 9. Fake 10. Fake

TASMANIAN DEVIL!

A FURRY BALL OF FURY!

WHERE TO FIND THEM!
MY BARK'S AS BAD AS MY BITE
I'M A SNAKE, NOT A SNACK!
DON'T MAKE ME USE MY STINK...

THEIR OVERSIZED HEAD HOLDS JAWS THAT CAN OPEN UP TO 80° WIDE, CAPABLE OF CRUSHING BONE AND BITING THROUGH METAL WIRE!

They can only see in black and white, which makes it easier to move around at night when they come out to hunt.

When they're born, they're the size of a grain of rice! They live in their mother's pouch with their tiny brothers and sisters. They grow to be the same size as a small dog.

Tasmanian devils fly into a rage when threatened or fighting for food, emitting blood-curdling shrieks that can be heard over a mile away.

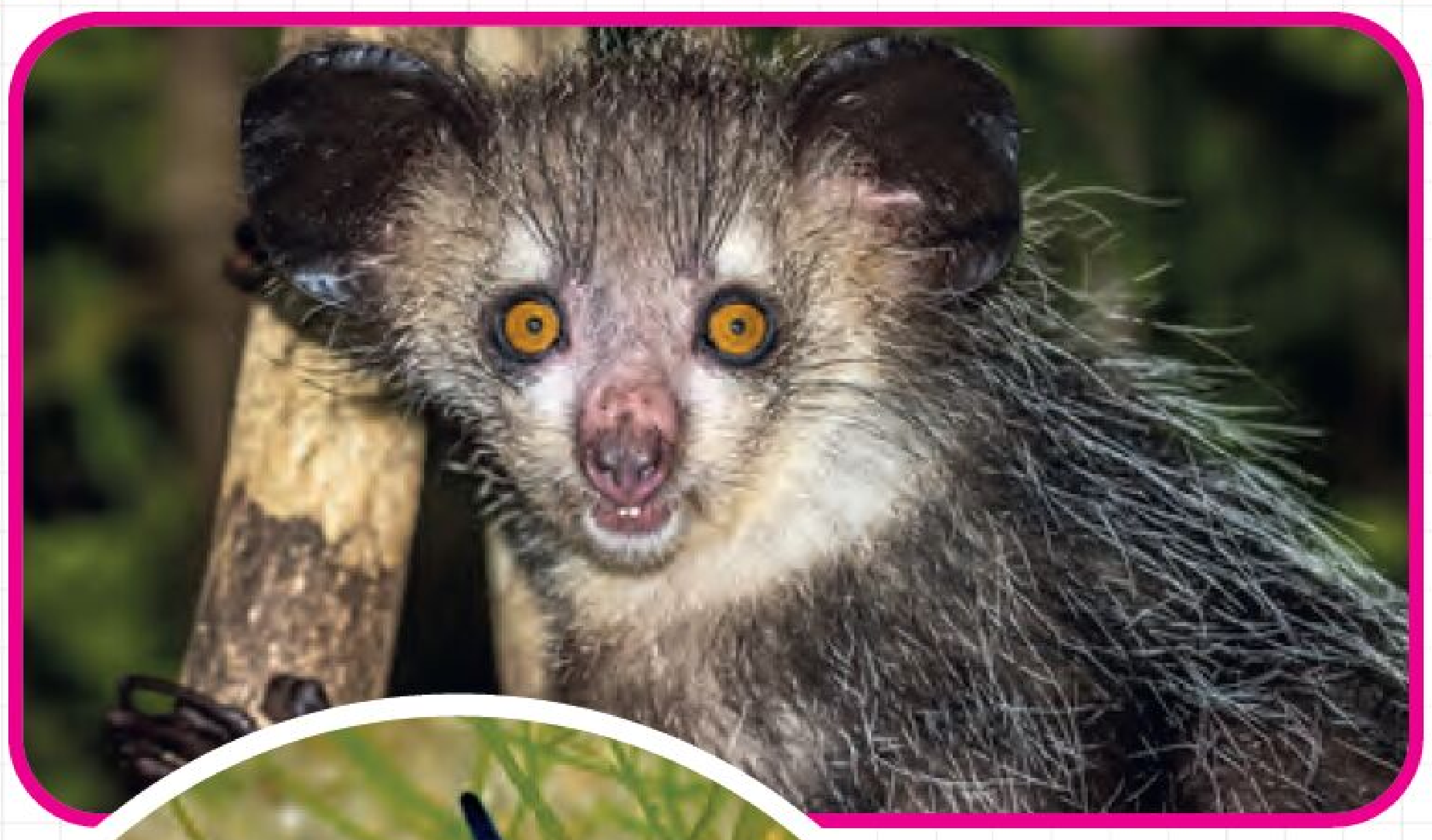
FOR ITS BODY WEIGHT, THE TASMANIAN DEVIL HAS THE MOST POWERFUL BITE OF ANY LIVING MAMMAL. STRONGER THAN A TIGER, LION OR JAGUAR!

THEY'RE CARNIVORES AND LIKE TO MUNCH ON SNAKES, FROGS AND BIRDS BUT PREFER TO SCAVENGE FOR FOOD LYING AROUND, GIVING THEM THE NICKNAME 'THE VACUUM CLEANERS OF THE FOREST'.

● They store fat in their tails and at the base is a scent gland they use to mark their territory. Or to let rip a putrid stench to repel predators!

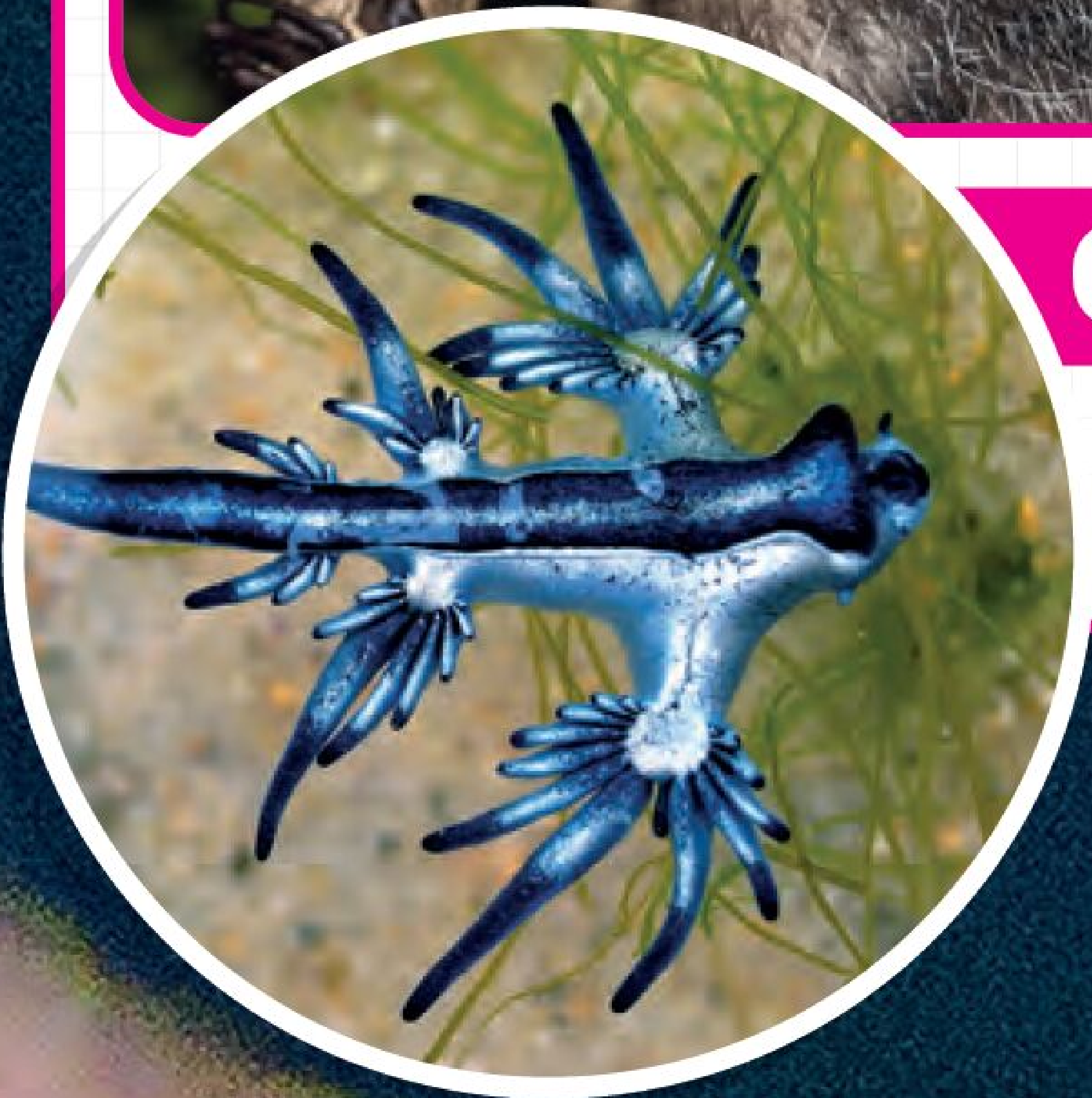
OUT OF THIS

These animals may look like aliens, but they really do exist on our planet!



AYE-AYE

- Meet the long-fingered lemur with the big bushy tail!

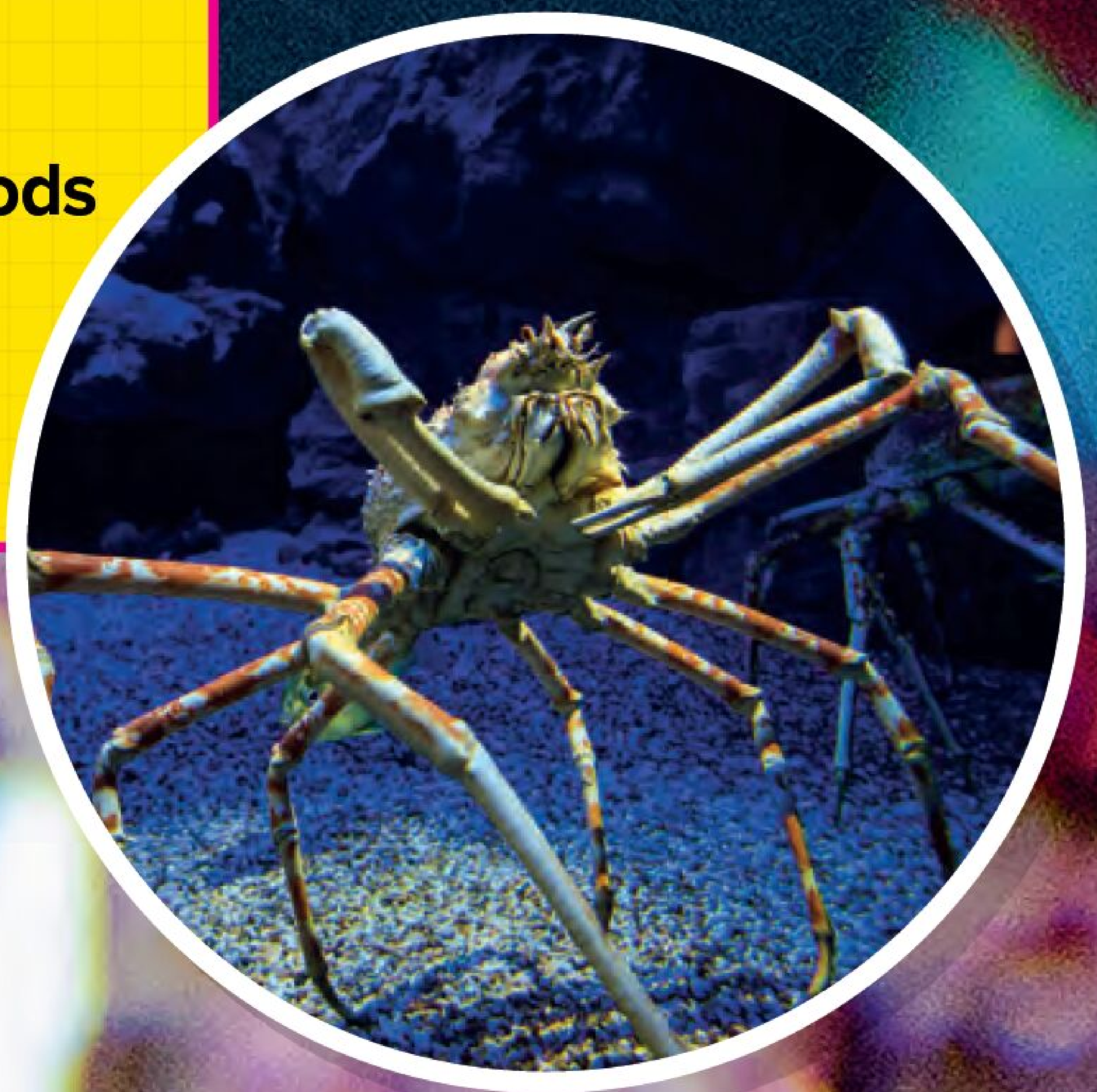


GLAUCUS ATLANTICUS

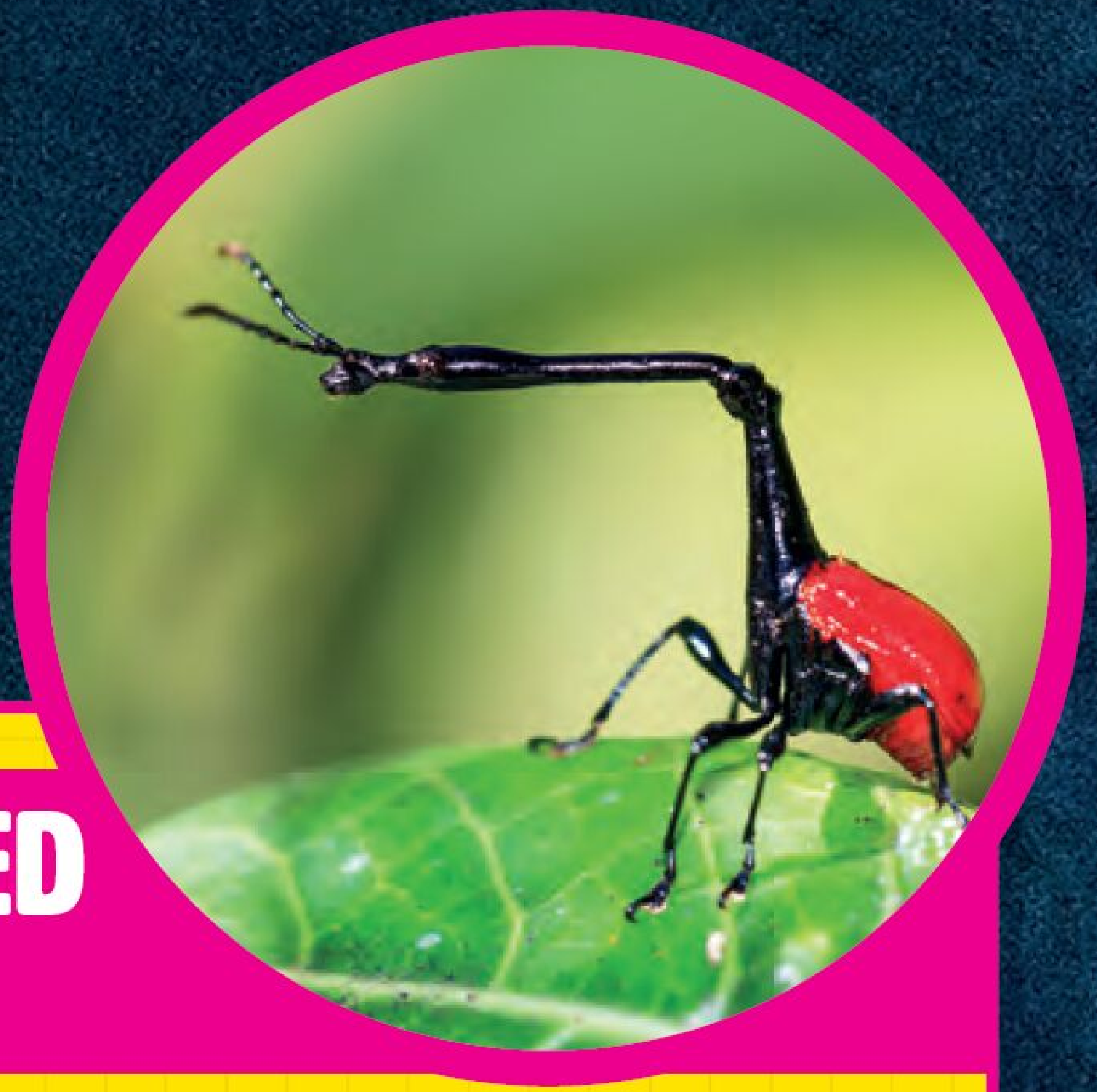
- This isn't your average sea slug!

JAPANESE SPIDER CRAB

- These arthropods can grow up to 3.8m across!



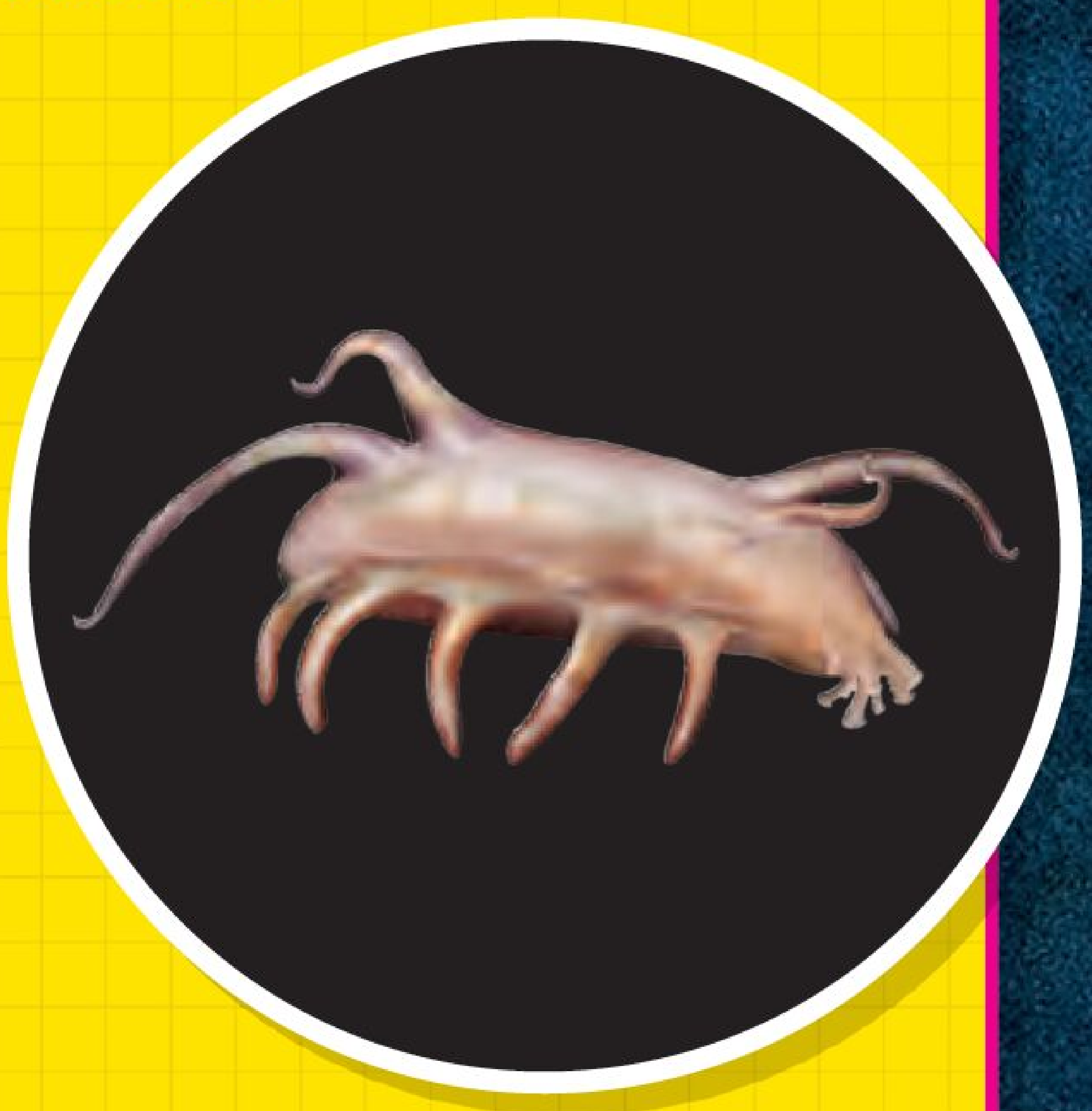
WORLD!



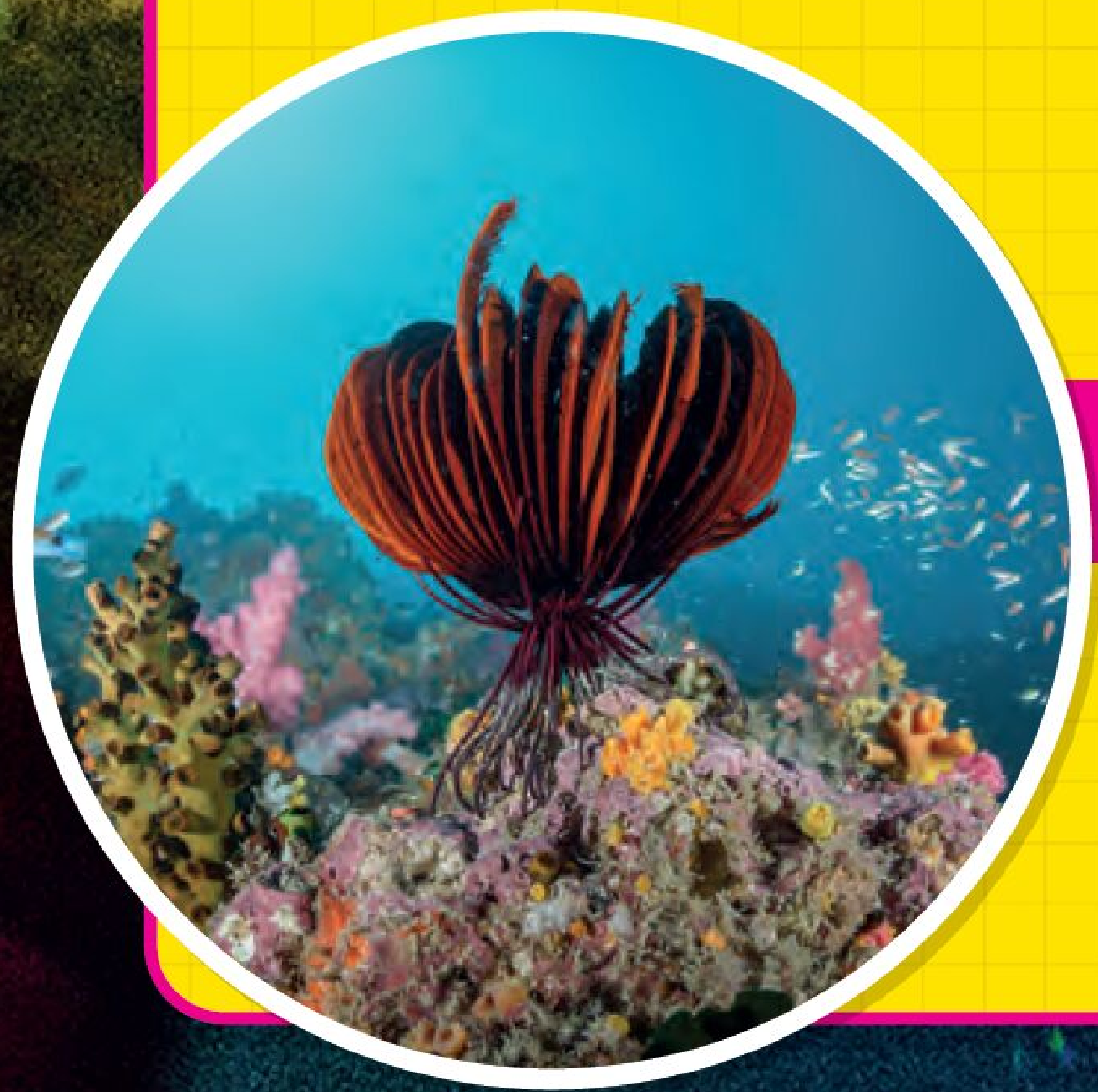
GIRAFFE-NECKED WEEVIL

- Luckily, they're not the size of giraffes – yikes!

SEA PIG



- These surreal deep-sea cucumbers scuttle along the ocean floor. Totally see-through, they'd fit in the palm of your hand.

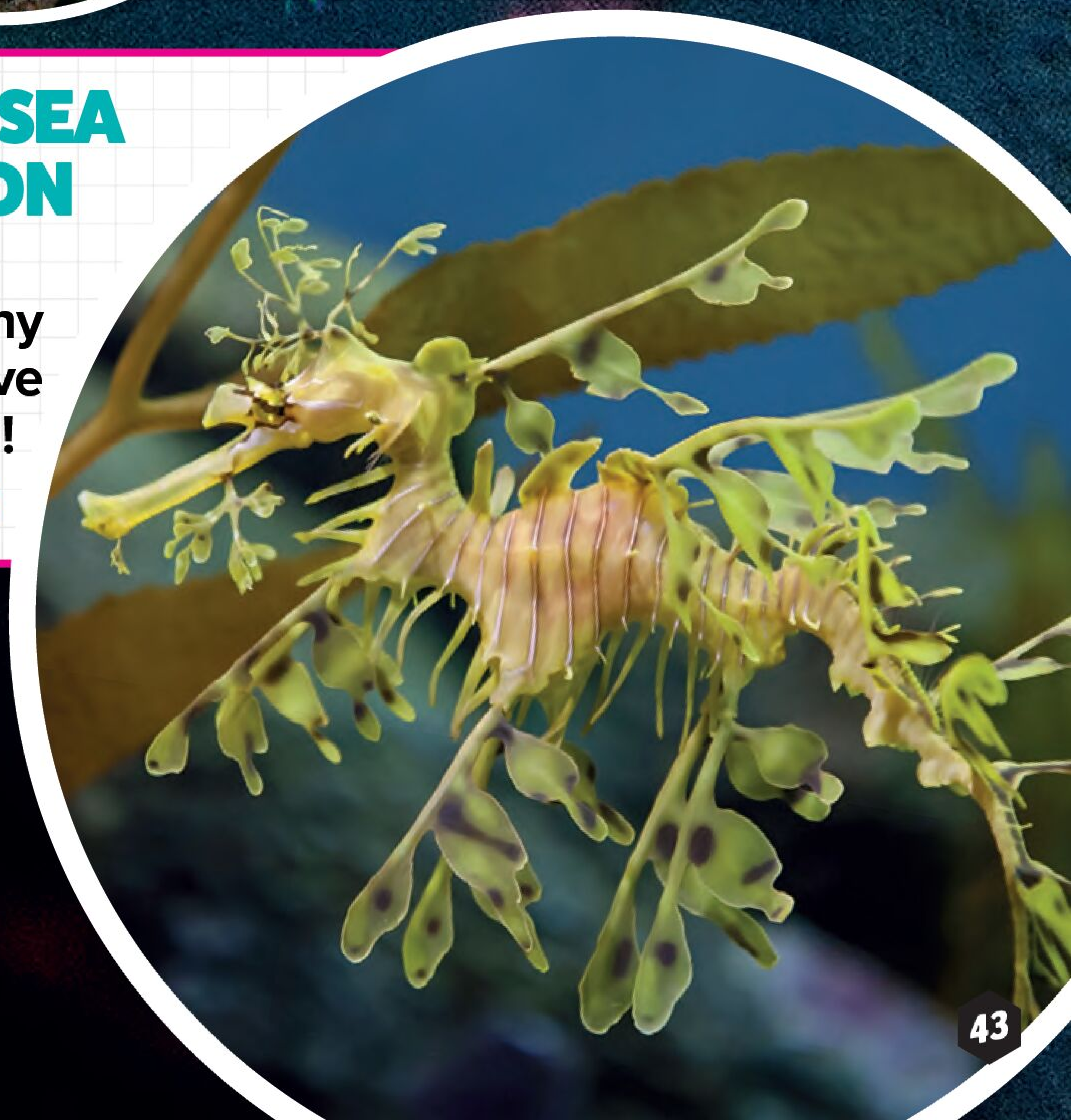


FEATHER STAR

- These mad marine creatures can regenerate their super-sticky arms!

LEAFY SEA DRAGON

- That's not like any plant we've ever seen!



PEACOCK MANTIS SHRIMP

- With their eerie eyes on strange stalks, they look like they just walked off a UFO!

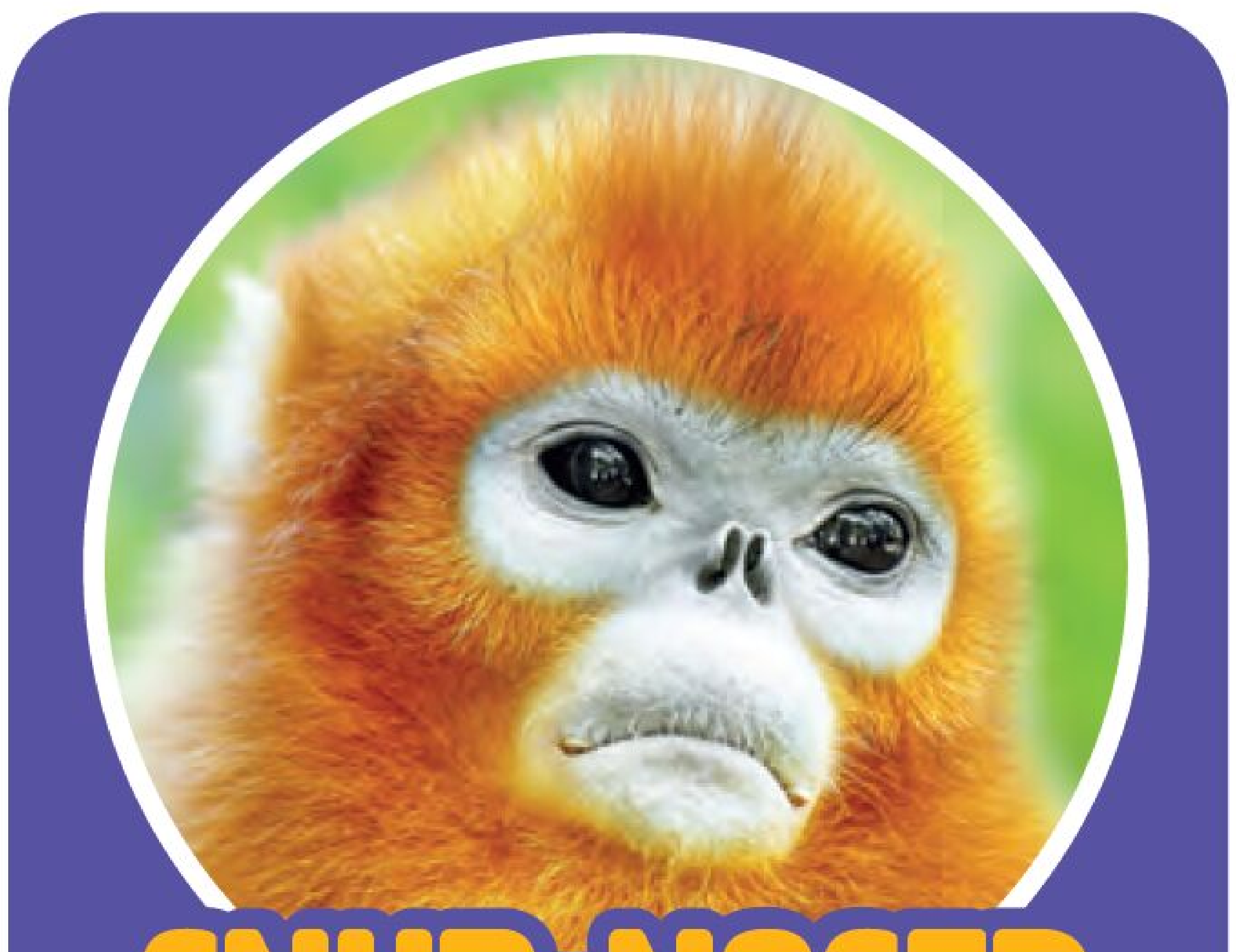
SENSATIONAL SNOUTS

WE'VE SNIFFED OUT THE BEST FACTS!

Noses are incredible body parts that help us to smell the world around us. Although the majority of ours look similar, in the animal kingdom they really do come in all shapes and sizes!

TAPIR

Despite looking more like pigs, tapirs are actually related to horses and rhinos. These animals have a short trunk which they use to grab leaves and tasty fruits with!

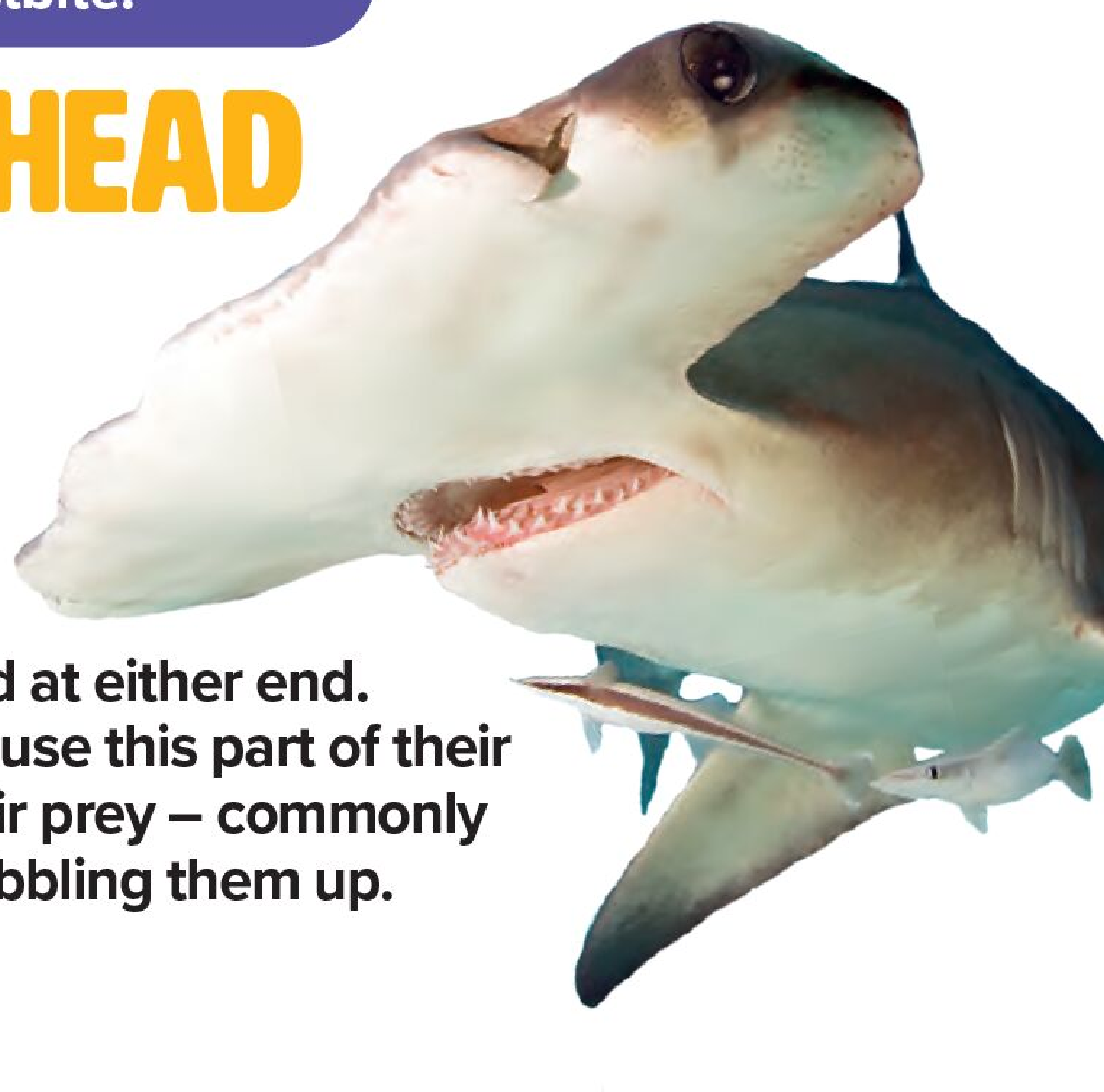


SNUB-NOSED MONKEY

It's believed that snub-nosed monkeys have teeny, tiny nostrils positioned close to their face as a way of coping with their cold environment. Unlike us, these primates are lacking a large nose structure because this would simply be something that could easily suffer from frostbite!

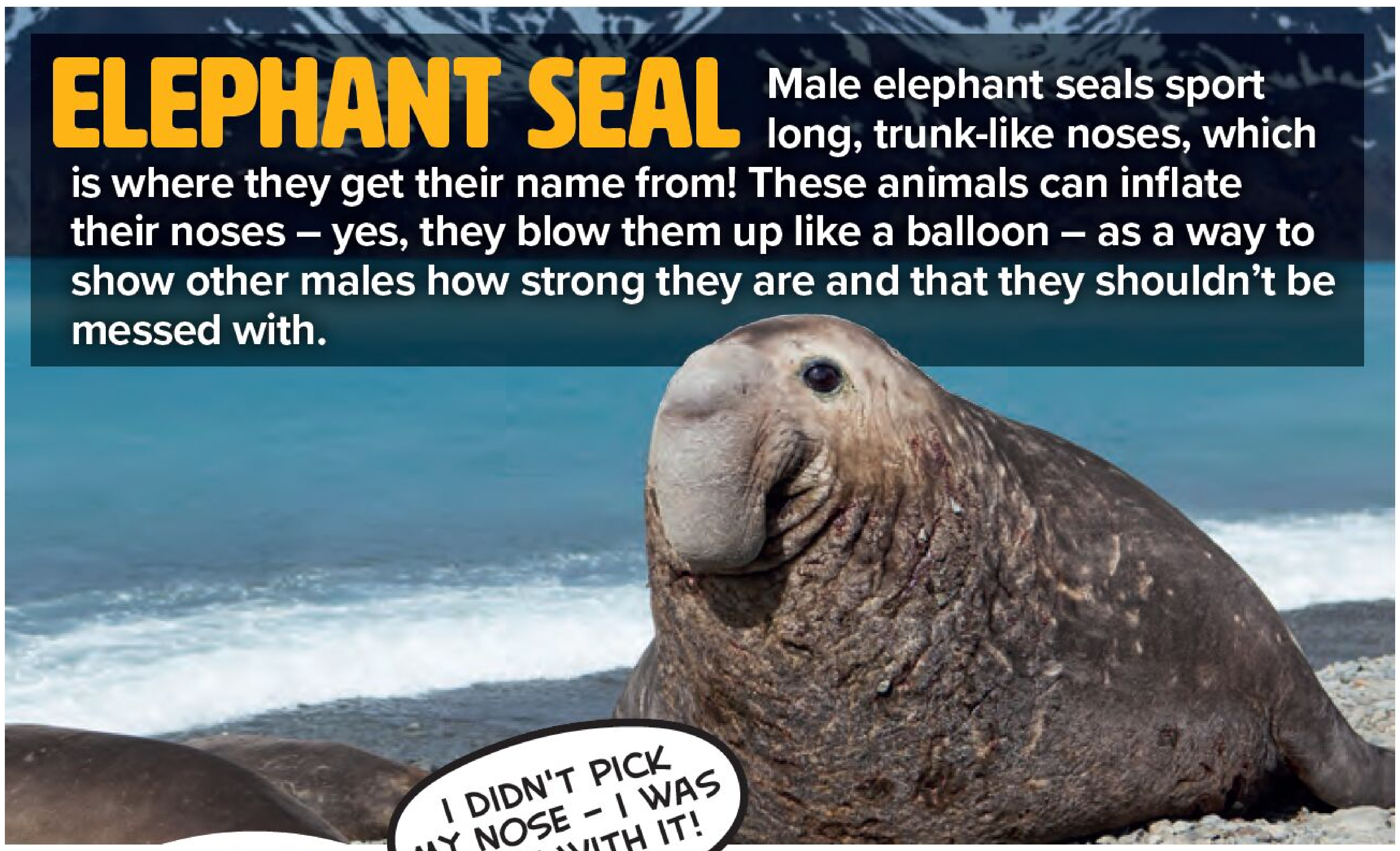
HAMMERHEAD SHARK

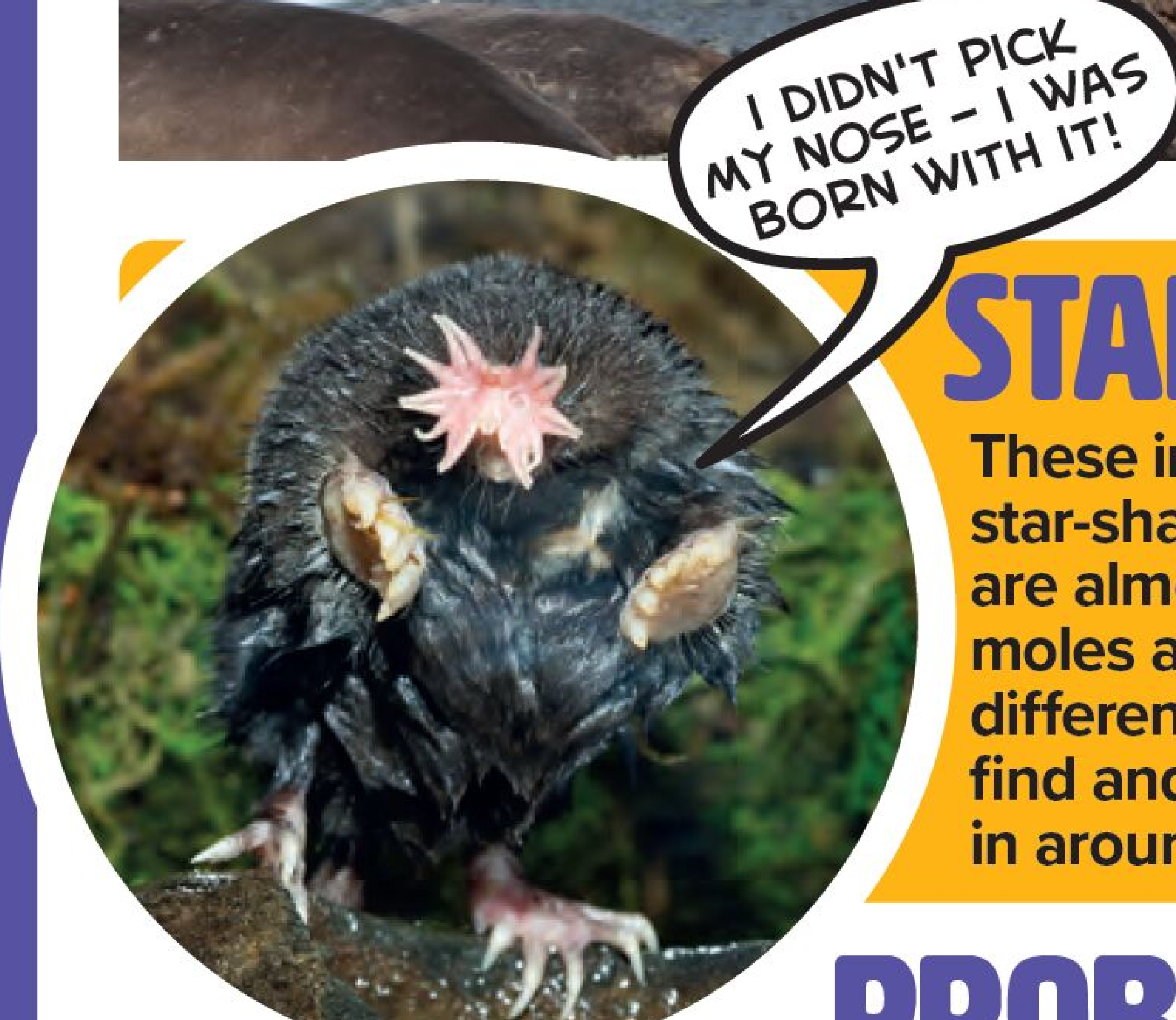
This peculiar-looking shark has a nose that stretches along its mouth, with the nostrils positioned at either end. Hammerhead sharks use this part of their body to pin down their prey – commonly stingrays – before gobbling them up.



ELEPHANT SEAL

Male elephant seals sport long, trunk-like noses, which is where they get their name from! These animals can inflate their noses – yes, they blow them up like a balloon – as a way to show other males how strong they are and that they shouldn't be messed with.



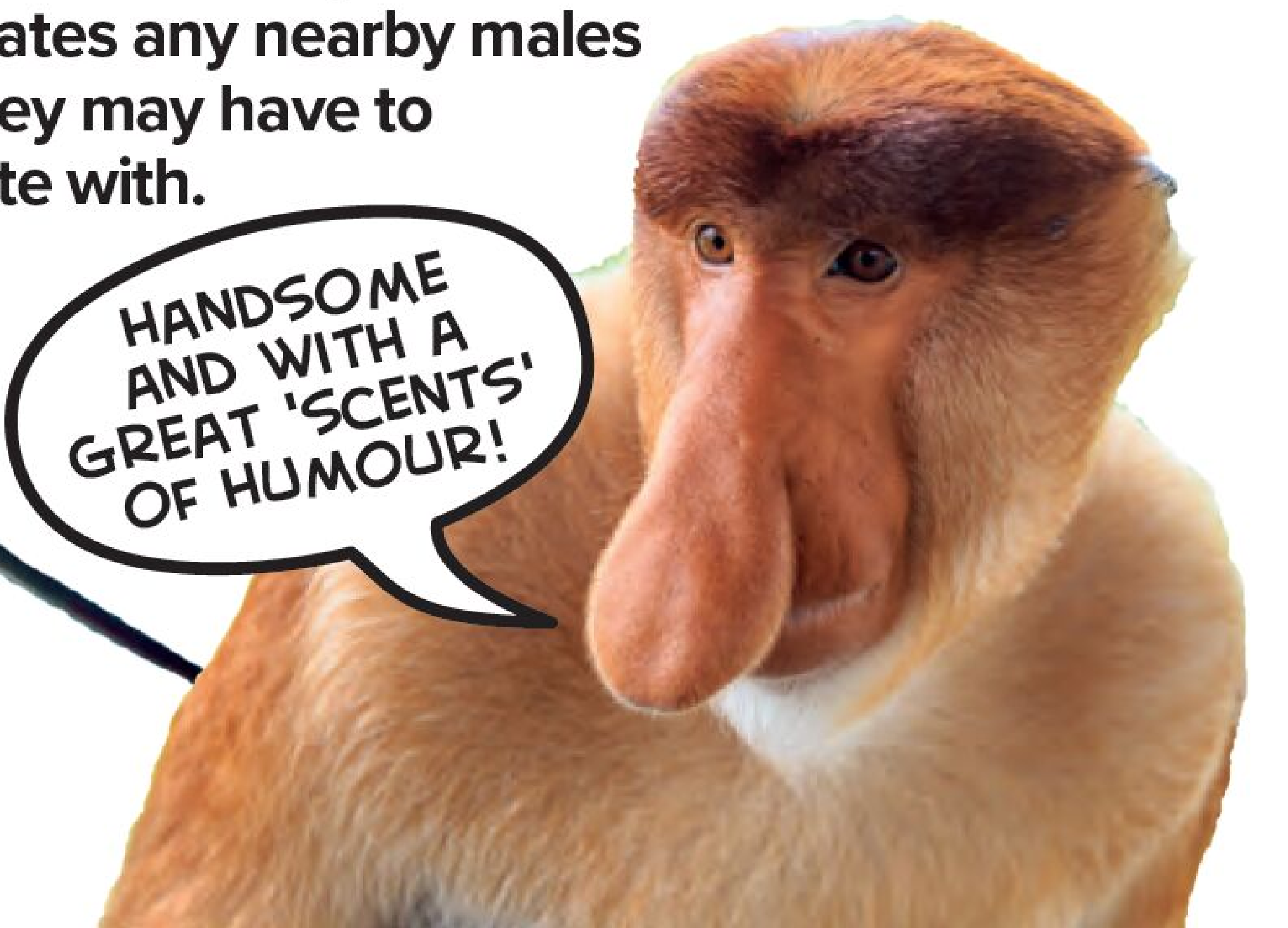


STAR-NOSED MOLE

These incredible mammals use their star-shaped nose to find food. Since they are almost completely blind, star-nosed moles are capable of feeling up to 12 different areas at once. They can even find and munch down worms and insects in around a quarter of a second!

PROBOSCIS MONKEY

A proboscis monkey's impressive snout can reach lengths of up to 10cm. They use this magnificent appendage to attract a mate as their large nose helps to amplify their call, which both impresses the females and intimidates any nearby males who they may have to compete with.



WHO NOSE?

DID YOU NOSE?

WHILE WE HEAR IN STEREO – THAT MEANS FINDING THE LOCATION OF A NOISE BY USING BOTH OUR EARS – MOLES CAN SMELL IN STEREO!

MATCH THE ANIMALS TO THEIR NOSE BY WRITING YOUR ANSWER IN THE BOX!

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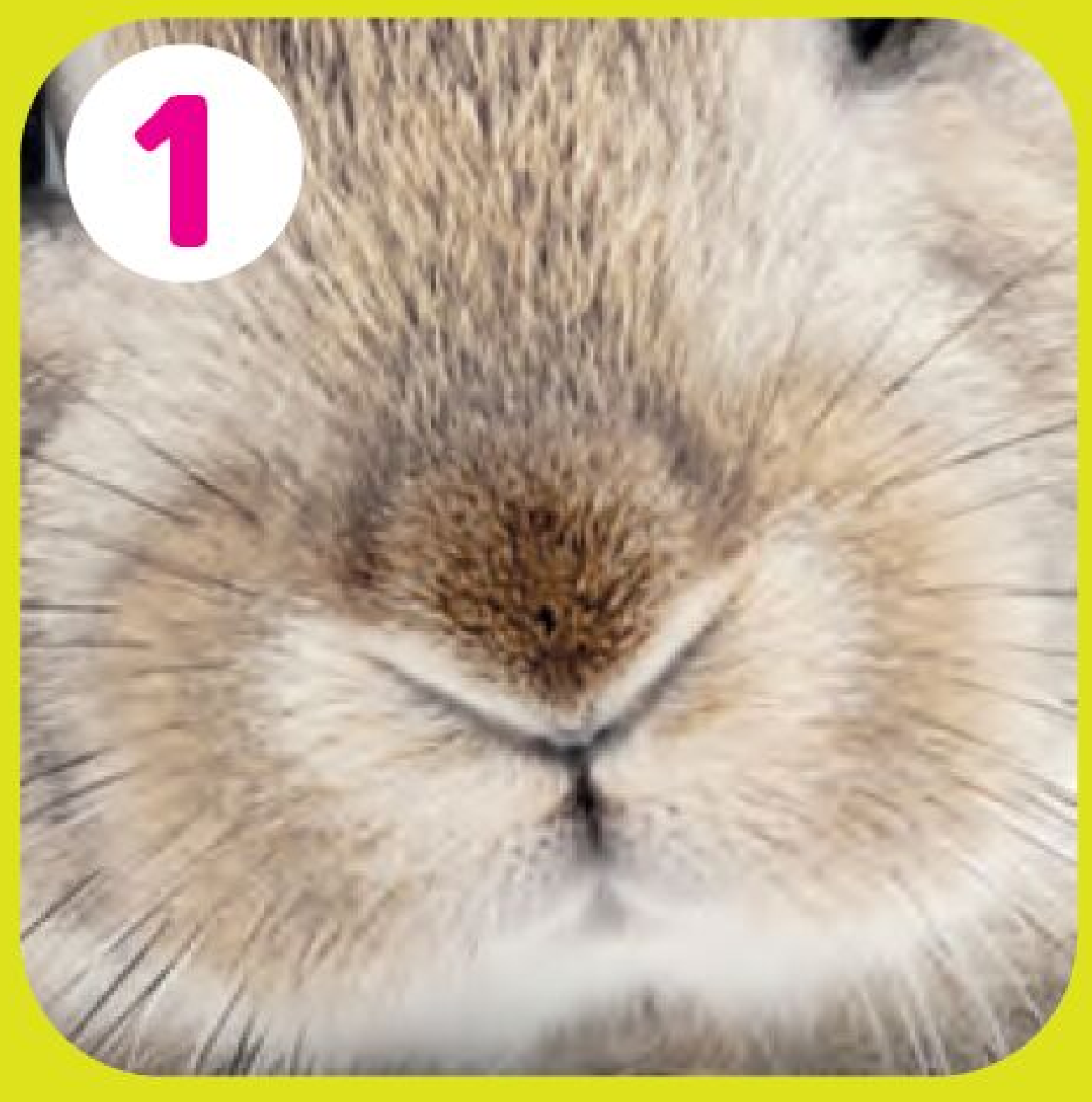

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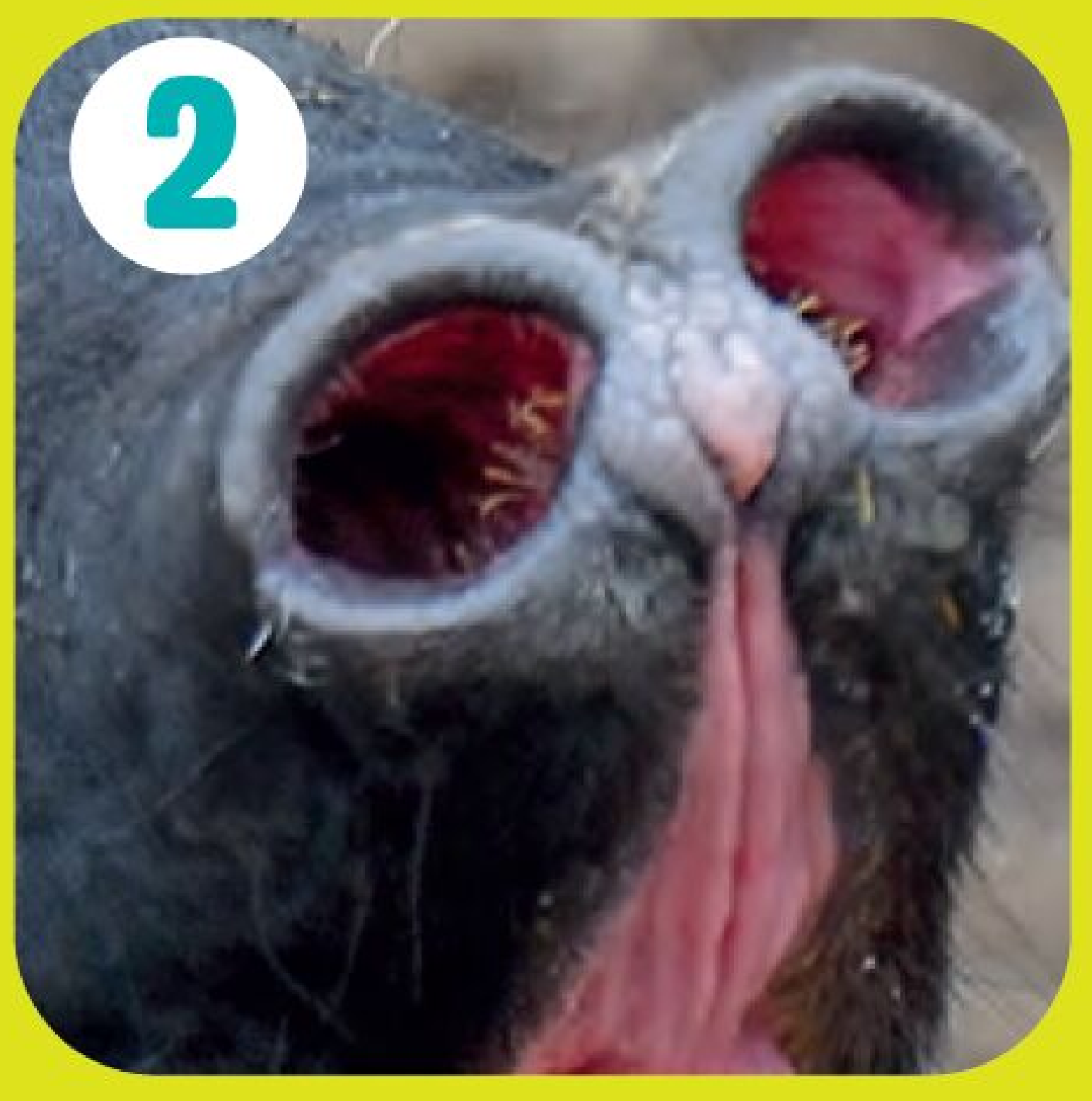

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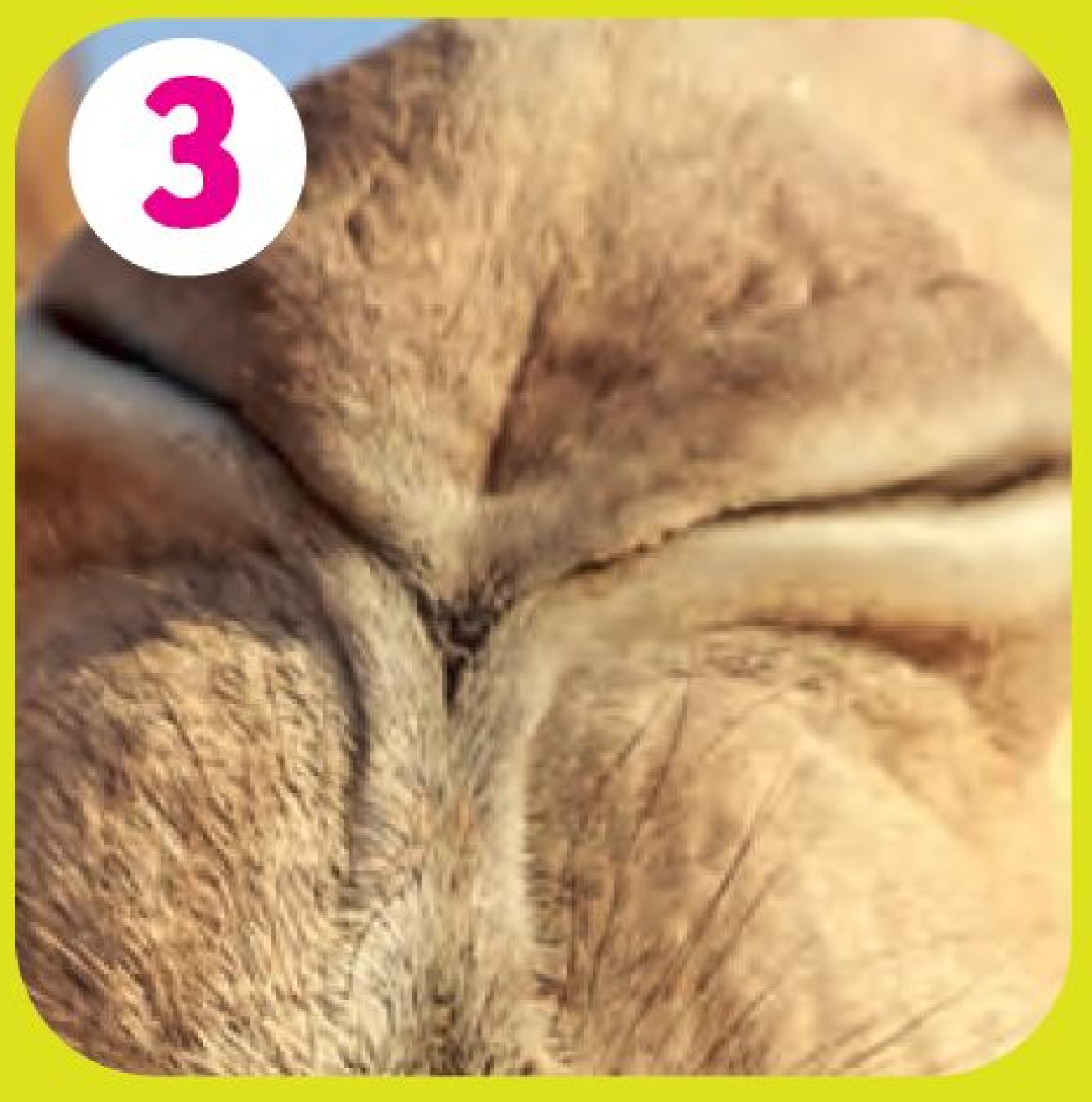

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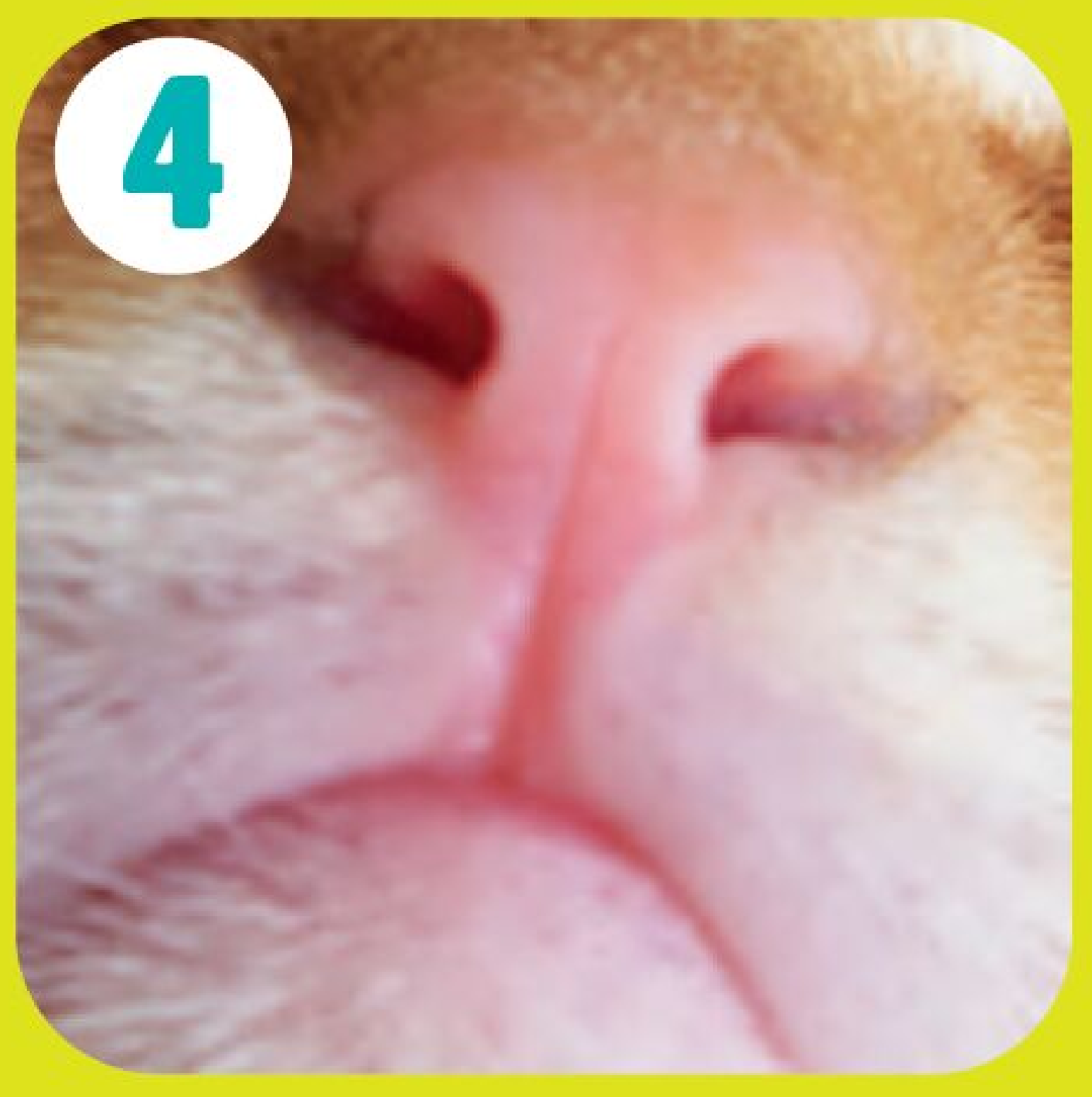

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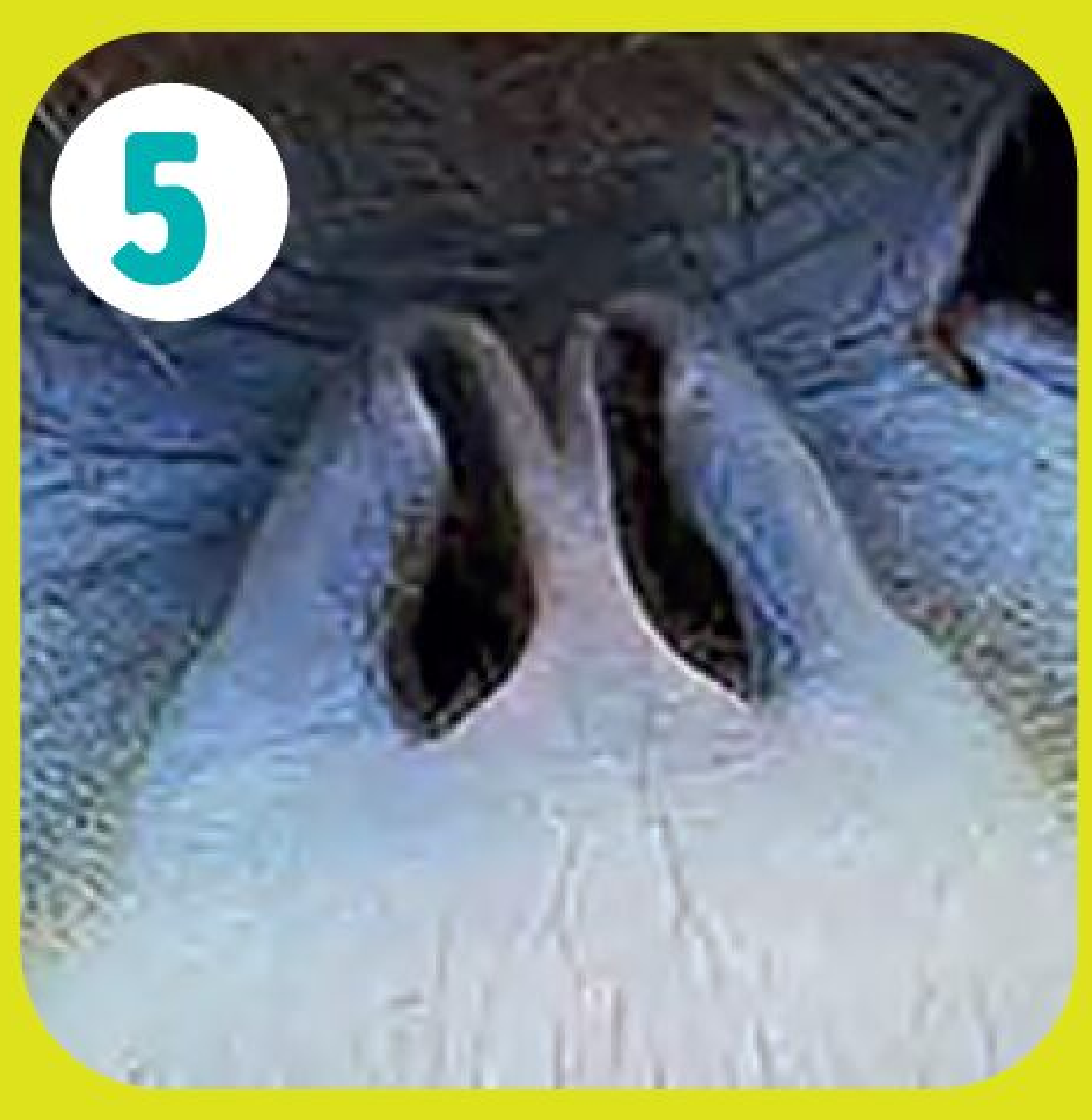

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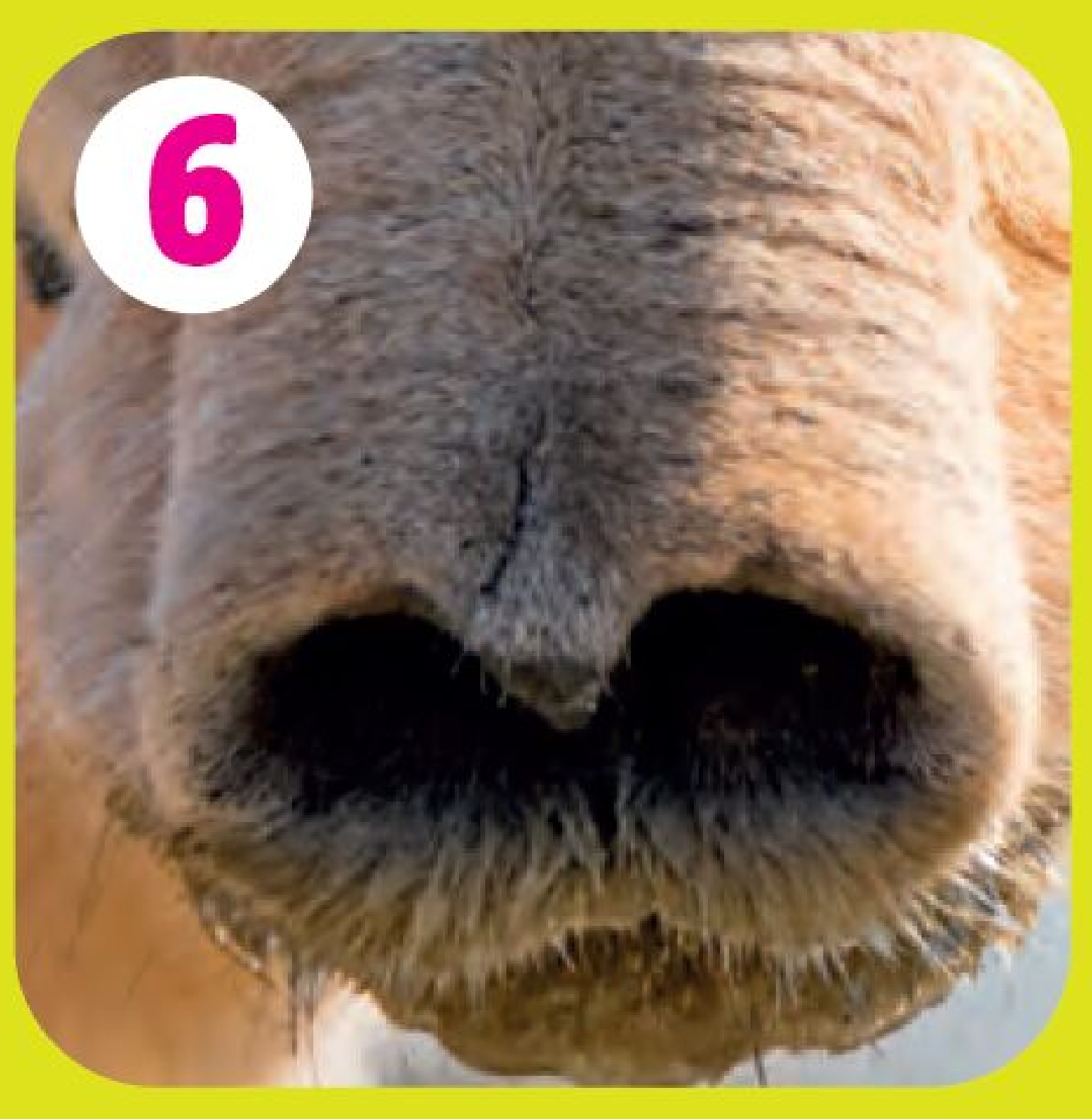

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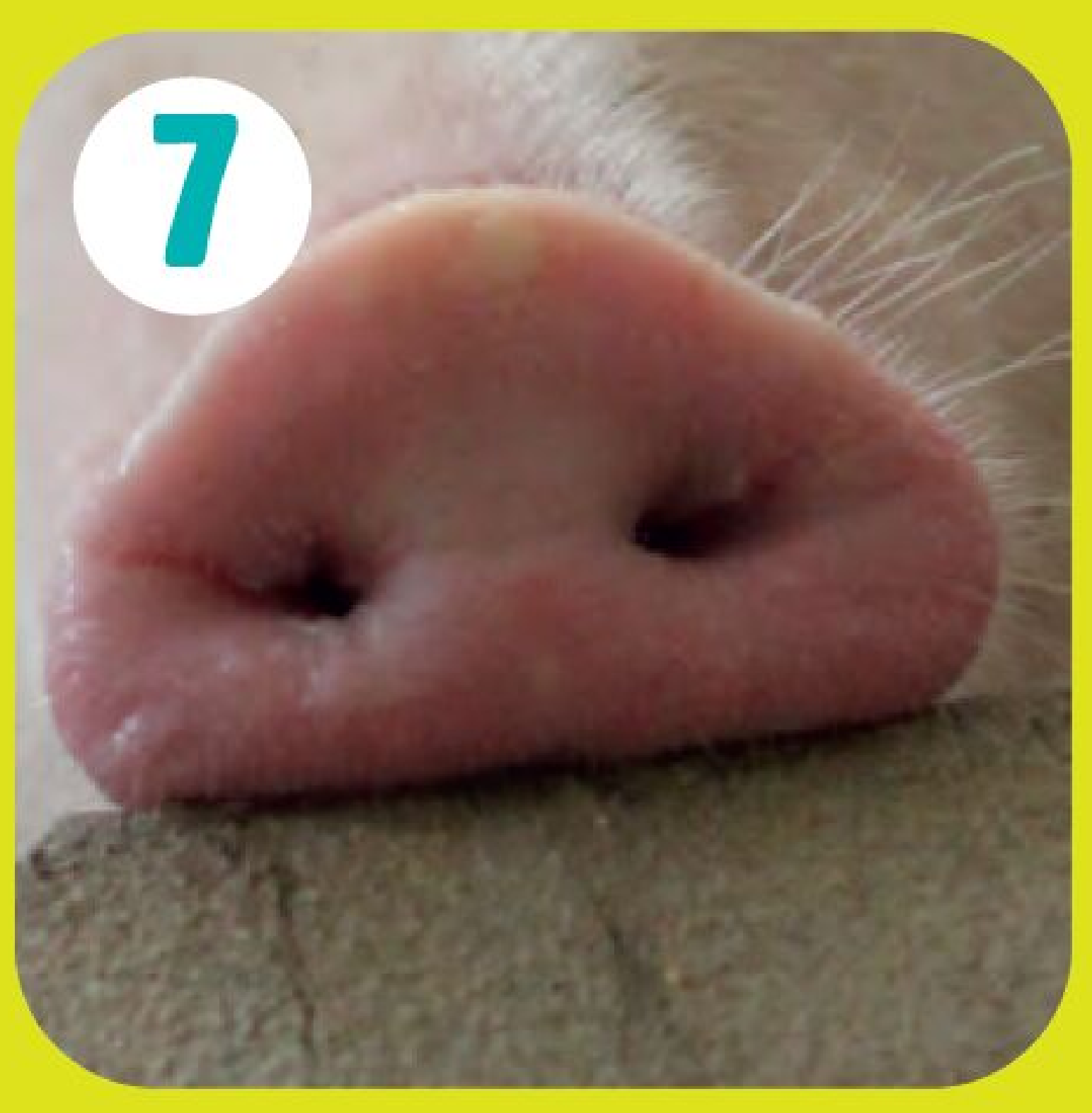

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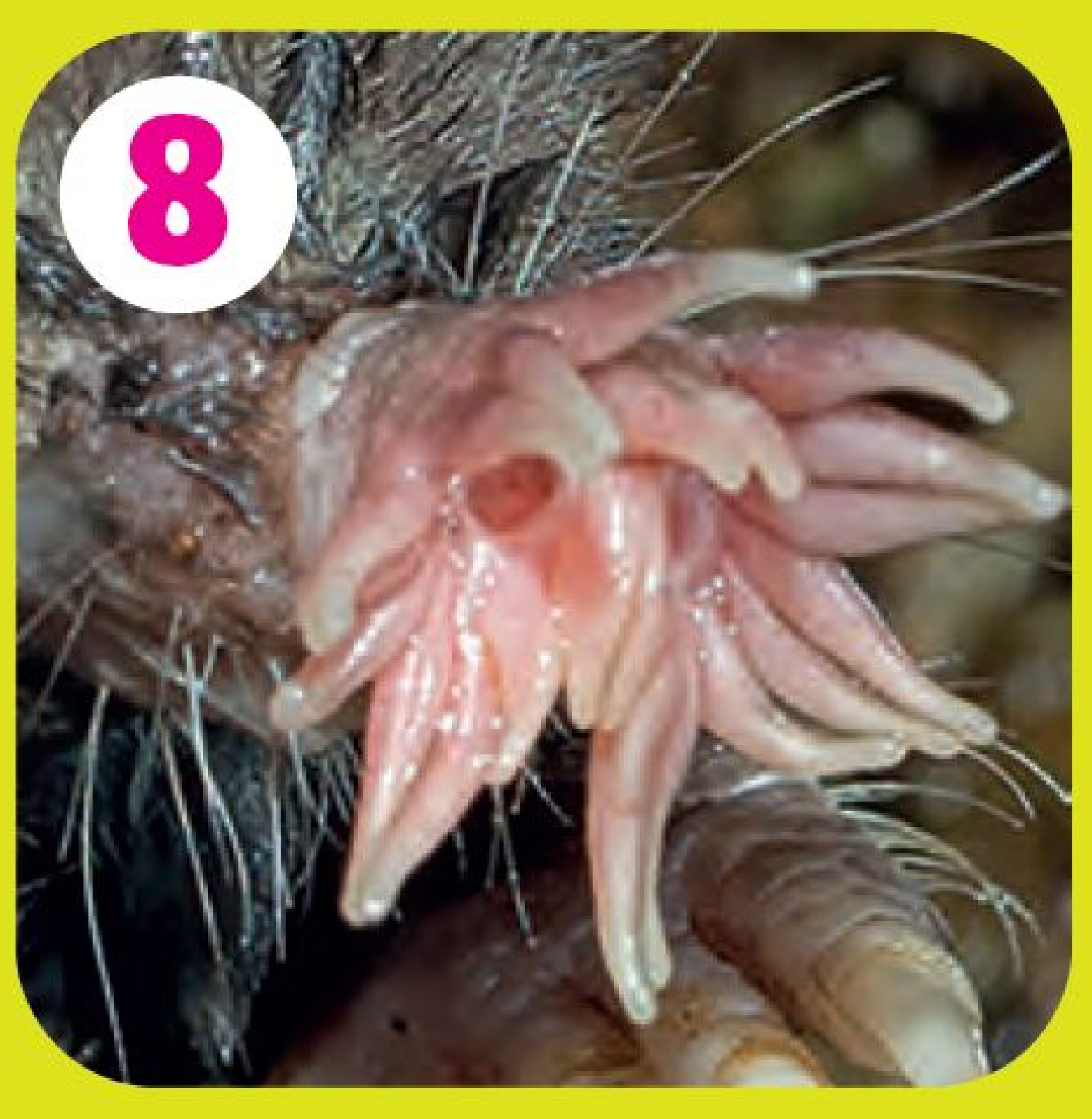


- TAPIR ☐
- RABBIT ☐
- CAMEL ☐
- PIG ☐
- SNUB-NOSED MONKEY ☐
- SAIGA ANTELOPE ☐
- STAR-NOSED MOLE ☐
- KITTEN ☐

ANSWERS:

1. Rabbit 2. Tapir 3. Camel
4. Kitten 5. Snub-nosed monkey
6. Saiga antelope 7. Pig
8. Star-nosed mole

DID YOU NOSE?

BEES SMELL WITH THEIR KNEES.

PLANET STRANGE

The weirdest facts from around the universe!

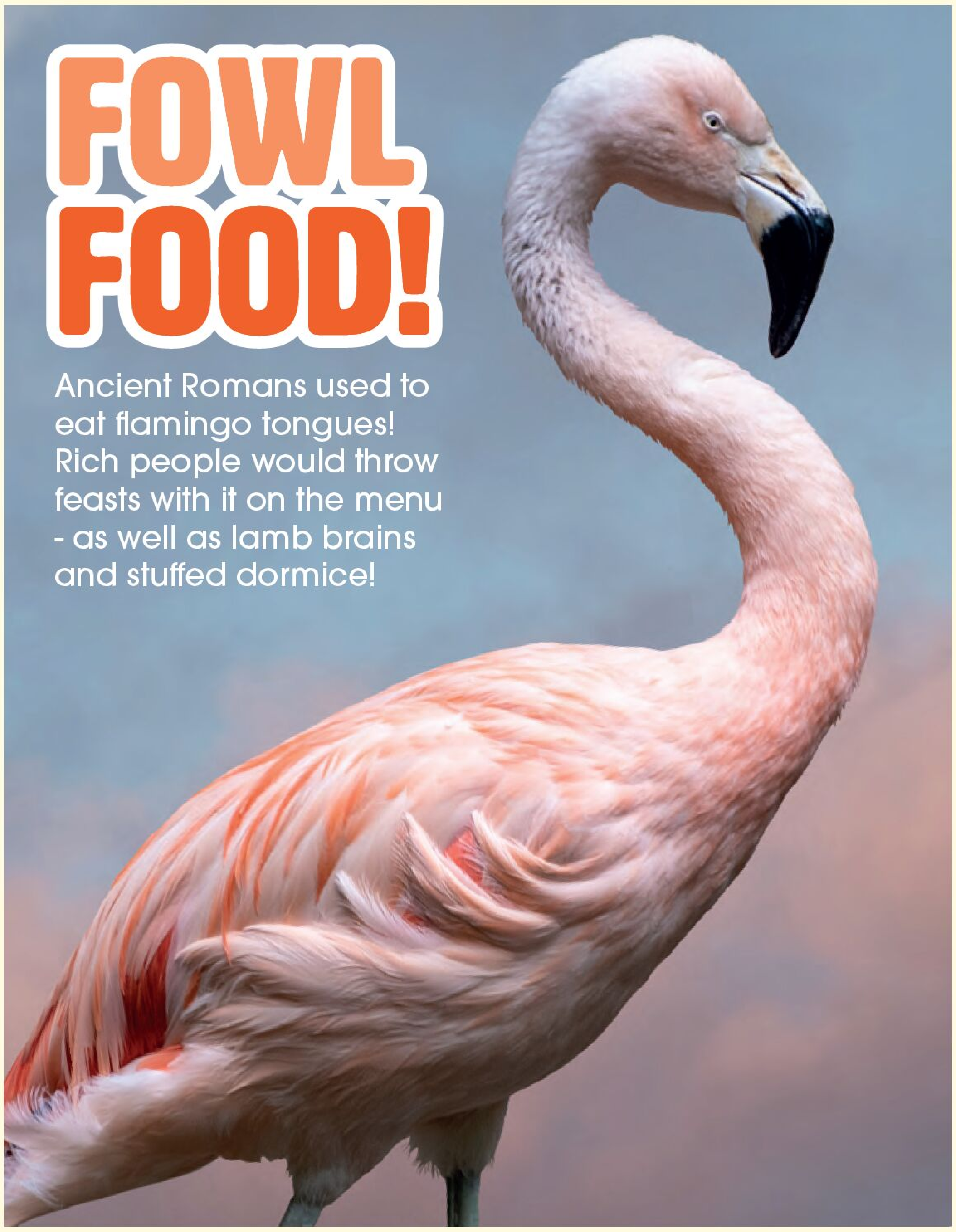
YOU'VE GOAT TO BE KIDDING!

A study conducted by researchers at a university in London showed that goats have different accents! They recorded clips of over 2,000 goats and played recordings to humans who were able to hear clear differences between the goats. Just like humans, goats from different countries sound completely different when they 'speak'.

WHO YOU CALLIN' DUMB?!

EYE DON'T BELIEVE IT!

An ostrich's eyes are bigger than its brain! This gives them super-sharp eyesight to spot predators from afar and keep well away. If they are caught unawares, they might not be smart enough to think their way out, but with their powerful and speedy legs they can certainly kick their way out!



FOWL FOOD!

Ancient Romans used to eat flamingo tongues! Rich people would throw feasts with it on the menu - as well as lamb brains and stuffed dormice!

SPIDEY-POWER!

WONDER WEB!

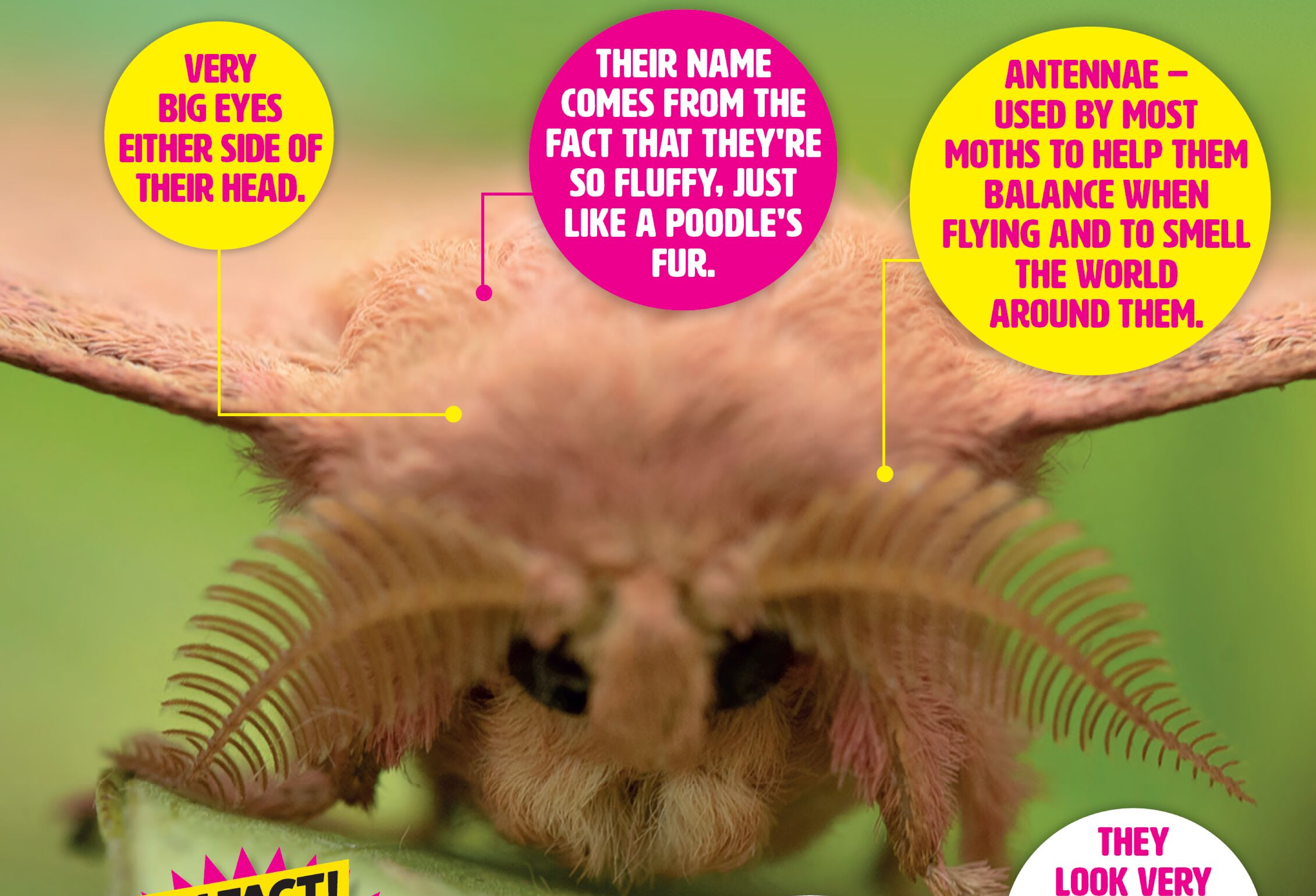
Spider silk is one of the strongest fabrics in the world – even stronger than a strand of steel! Strands of their silk woven together to the thickness of a pencil could stop a plane!

WOW! IT REALLY EXISTS!

Have you ever thought for one minute that moths could actually be cute?! Well, meet the **VENEZUELAN POODLE MOTH**!

The poodle moth was discovered in 2009 by zoologist, **Dr Anker**, in Venezuela, but here's the thing… no-one else has ever seen one in real life, so it remains a bit of a mystery! Based on the limited photos taken by **Dr Anker**, scientists believe that the moth measures 2.5cm in length.

The moth can be found in higher altitude forests and is believed to have a short lifespan of only 8-11 weeks. **Dr Anker** has been accused of faking the photos, but scientists believe these moths do exist – and they could be the most adorable moths ever!



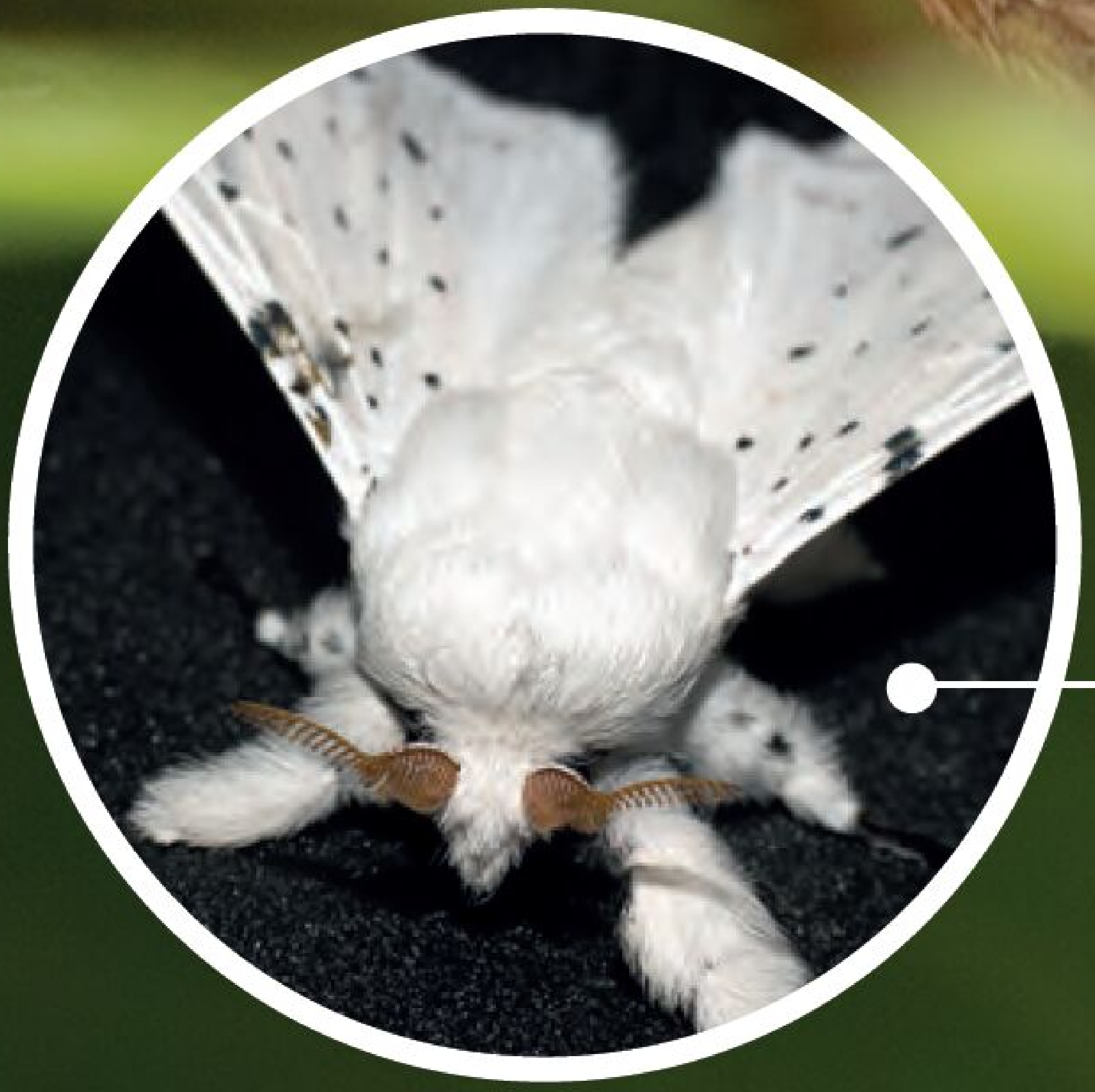
VERY BIG EYES EITHER SIDE OF THEIR HEAD.

THEIR NAME COMES FROM THE FACT THAT THEY'RE SO FLUFFY, JUST LIKE A POODLE'S FUR.

ANTENNAE – USED BY MOST MOTHS TO HELP THEM BALANCE WHEN FLYING AND TO SMELL THE WORLD AROUND THEM.

FUN FACT!

SOME MOTHS ARE SUPER-IMPORTANT POLLINATORS. THEIR FURRY BODIES ARE PERFECT FOR PICKING UP AND HOLDING POLLEN!



THEY LOOK VERY SIMILAR TO A DOT-LINED WHITE MOTH.

THE WEIRD WORLD OF ANIMAL

● A lobster's bladder is in its head! When males fight, they squirt each other in the face with their pee. Ew!

SNAKE STINK IS AWESOME!

● Siberian chipmunks scare away predators by covering themselves in snake urine.

● The Chinese soft-shelled turtle pees from its mouth!

● Cheetahs piddle around their home to warn off invaders.

THE STINKY TRUTH ABOUT ANIMAL WEE! PEE-YEW!

WEE!

THIS SMELLS WEE-LLY SAFE!

- Rats can't puke so it's dangerous for them to eat anything poisonous. When they find something safe, they pee on it to let other rats know it's okay to eat.

YOU'RE WELCOME!

- Whale and fish pee helps keep the ocean's ecosystem healthy as it's full of nitrogen and phosphorus. You could say it's a tinkle-down effect!

- The South American degu's urine reflects ultraviolet light which it can see. It uses it to mark the passageways of its burrow.

- To help them get more traction on branches and to mark their route home, bush babies wee on their hands.

DON'T TELL ANYONE!

Sambar stags soak their antlers in urine then rub them against tree trunks to mark their territory.

THAT'S MY TREE, BACK OFF!

WHY?

...BIRDS DON'T WEE!

BIRD FACT FILE

DIET: SEEDS, NUTS, OATS AND INSECTS.

POPULATION: AS MUCH AS 430 BILLION!

LIFESPAN: VARIES ON THE SPECIES - A ROBIN'S LIFESPAN IS AROUND 13 MONTHS WHEREAS EUROPEAN GOLDFINCHES CAN LIVE UP TO 27 YEARS!

HOW WE WEE

When we eat and drink, our bodies absorb what they need to survive, like vitamins and minerals, before transforming the leftover substances into waste (pee and poo!) Our wee is formed in an organ called the kidney. It's then stored in the bladder and, when full, the urine leaves our bodies. For most animals that have kidneys and a bladder, this process is the same as ours. However, birds don't have all of these organs, so how do they wee?!

FUN FACT!

OSTRICHES ARE AN EXCEPTION TO THIS RULE AS THEY CAN PEE AND POO SEPARATELY (EVEN THOUGH IT STILL COMES FROM THE SAME PLACE).

ALL TO DO WITH POO

Birds don't have a bladder to store urine, or a urethra to release it, so their bodies can't convert waste to pee and poop like mammals do. Instead of turning waste into pee, birds turn it into a solid called uric acid, that they release alongside their poop. Doing this avoids the animal having to carry lots of fluid around, which would affect their ability to fly.

EXIT STRATEGY

Unlike mammals who have two separate exit points (one for the urine and one for our poo) birds only have one exit point – the cloaca (clo-a-ka). For our feathered friends, both waste products are expelled from the same place, at the same time. The white part of a bird's waste is the wee and the dark part is the poop, so the next time you see a bird's dropping on the ground or on a park bench, you'll know exactly what it is!

DID YOU KNOW?

BIRDS LAY THEIR EGGS FROM THE SAME CLOACA THAT THEY EXPEL THEIR WASTE FROM!

EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT THE THINGS THAT GO BUMP IN THE NIGHT? DISCOVER THE ANIMAL KINGDOM… AFTER THE SUN GOES DOWN!

CREATURES OF THE DARK

TURN OVER FOR MORE

AWESOME ADAPTATION!

CHECK OUT HOW THESE NIGHT CRAWLERS HAVE ADAPTED TO THE DARK!

BAT

■ Bats create a high-pitched sound which boomerangs off objects, allowing them to investigate their immediate environment. This is called echolocation!

NAKED MOLE RAT

■ Naked mole rats aren't actually naked... they rely on a highly developed sense of touch. They have tiny hairs on their body which are sensitive to movement, and this helps them move around in the dark successfully.

MOLE

■ Animals who navigate life underground often rely on touch and smell to find their way about! Moles have really bad eyesight and are colour blind, so they need super-noses to sniff our their food and dodge predators.

ANGLER FISH

■ The angler fish attracts its prey in the deep, dark ocean by using a skill called bioluminescence! This is when an organism creates its OWN source of light! There are lots of uses for this, including communication and attracting prey.

PALE -THROATED SLOTH

■ The pale-throated sloth manages to navigate its way through branches thanks to its nose! The sloth has developed a great sense of smell so that it can sniff out sap from branches.

BUSH BABY

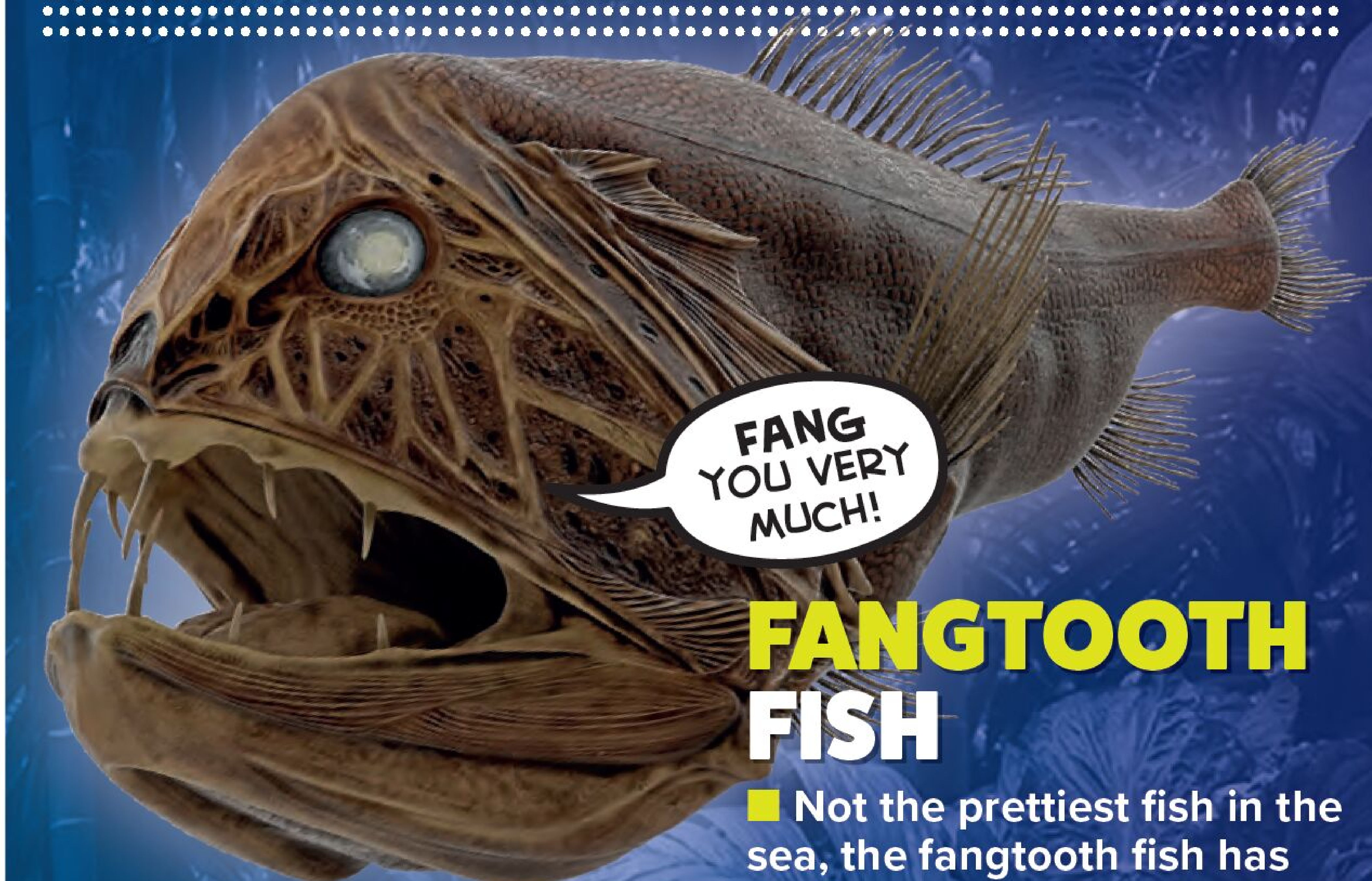
■ Many nocturnal animals have larger eyes and pupils – the part of the eye that collects light – so they can see better in the dark. And there is no better example than the bush baby!
Their eyes have light-sensitive rod cells, allowing them to see in what would be a pitch-black environment to our eyes! Many nocturnal animals have black and white vision.

DARKEST DEPTHS

We've met the animals that slumber through the daylight and get active at night... but what about those living in constant darkness? Meet the creatures that thrive in the cold and crushing pressure at the bottom of the ocean.

FRILLED SHARK

■ This prehistoric-looking shark has earned the nickname 'living fossil', because despite being around for 80 million years... it has hardly changed at all!


FANG YOU VERY MUCH!

FANGTOOTH FISH

■ Not the prettiest fish in the sea, the fangtooth fish has the largest set of teeth of any fish, in proportion to its body!

WOLFFISH

■ Also known as the sea-wolf, this deep-sea critter is a real predator, dining on its hard-bodied neighbours like crabs and sea snails... that's why it has such a mighty jaw! This guy has a powerful bite that can crush hard shells!

GIANT ISOPOD

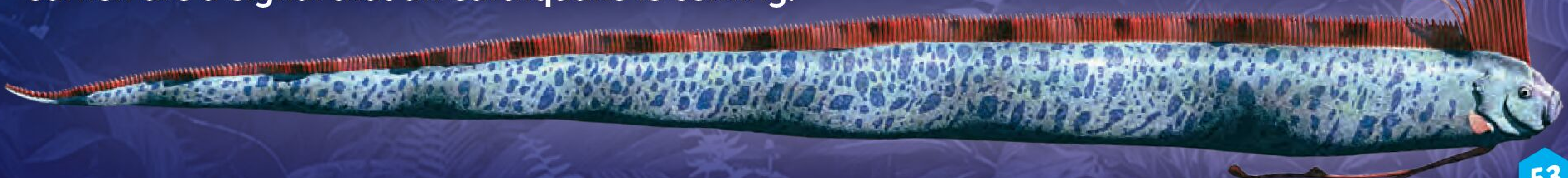
■ Imagine you found a woodlouse the size of a puppy... well, if you could go to the depths of the ocean, you'd find the closest thing! Isopods aren't bugs though, they're more closely related to crustaceans.

DID YOU KNOW?

CRITTERS THAT DWELL IN THE DEEPEST DEPTHS OF THE OCEAN CAN BE HUGE! THIS IS BECAUSE OF DEEP-SEA GIGANTISM, WHERE ORGANISMS THAT LIVE IN THE DEPTHS OF THE SEA GET BIGGER THAN THEIR RELATIVES WHO RESIDE IN SHALLOWER WATERS. IT'S THOUGHT TO BE CAUSED BY THINGS SUCH AS THERE BEING MORE OXYGEN IN THE DEEP SEA AND ALSO THE SCARCITY OF AVAILABLE FOOD. BEING BIG MEANS THEY CAN TRAVEL FURTHER TO FIND FOOD AND ALSO GO LONGER WITHOUT IT!

OARFISH

■ The world's largest bony fish, the oarfish, is totally harmless... but you might not want to see one of these guys on the beach. Many people believe that washed up oarfish are a signal that an earthquake is coming!

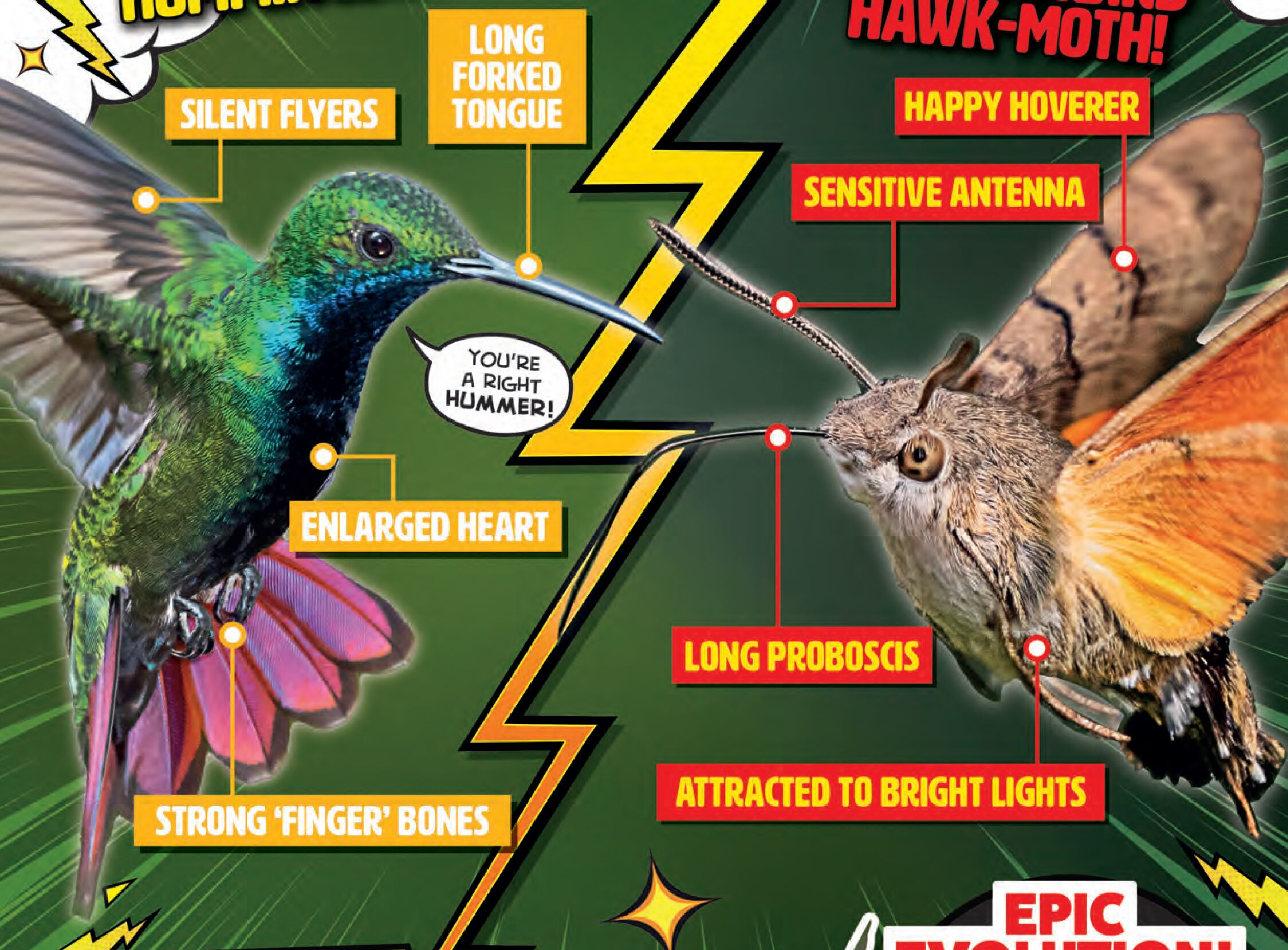


WHO WILL WIN?

HUMMINGBIRD VS. HUMMINGBIRD HAWK-MOTH

SHIMMERING BEAUTY HUMMINGBIRD!

MINIATURE FLUTTERER HUMMINGBIRD HAWK-MOTH!


SILENT FLYERS
LONG FORKED TONGUE
YOU'RE A RIGHT HUMMER!
ENLARGED HEART
STRONG 'FINGER' BONES
HAPPY HOVERER
SENSITIVE ANTENNA
LONG PROBOSCIS
ATTRACTED TO BRIGHT LIGHTS

WINNER!

HUMMINGBIRD

★ **Hummingbird hawk-moths** are pretty cool creatures, however, hummingbirds being the only species of bird that can fly backwards certainly earns this winged wonder the top prize!

EPIC EVOLUTION!

Both species are amazing examples of a phenomenon called 'convergent evolution'. This means they have similar traits to help them solve problems! For example, both of these species hover in front of plants, allowing them to collect nectar while staying in the air!

Under the MICROSCOPE

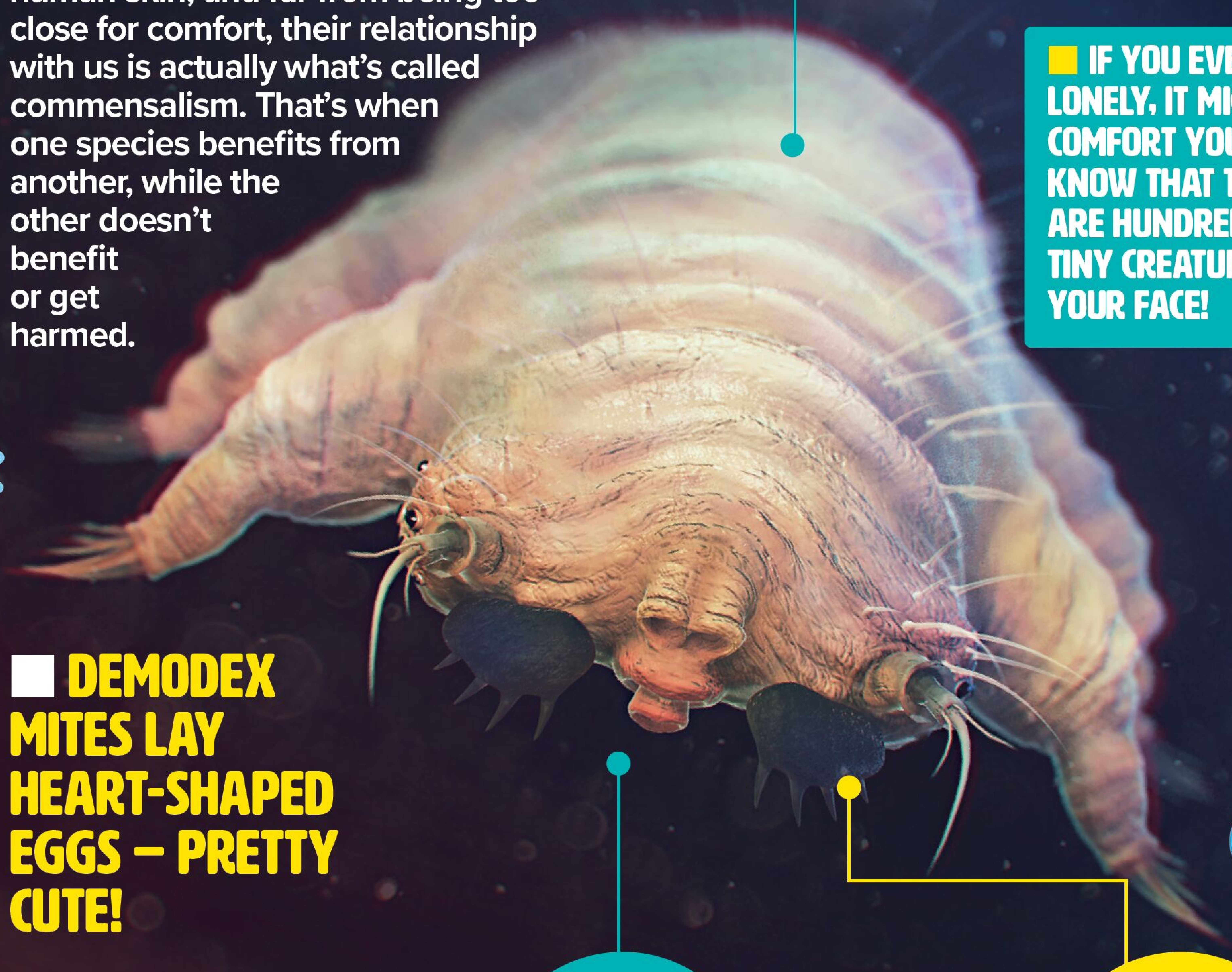
DEMODEX MITE

MEET THE DEMODEX MITE, A 0.3-MILLIMETRE-LONG ARTHROPOD THAT CALLS THE HAIR FOLLICLES ON YOUR FACE HOME. NOW, DON'T SAY 'YUCK' RIGHT AWAY – THESE MINI MONSTERS REALLY GROW ON YOU. LITERALLY!

■ IT'S BELIEVED THAT THESE TINY CREATURES EAT SEBUM (AN OIL HUMAN SKIN MAKES TO PROTECT ITSELF) AND OUR DEAD SKIN CELLS.

■ Demodex mites can ONLY live on human skin, and far from being too close for comfort, their relationship with us is actually what's called commensalism. That's when one species benefits from another, while the other doesn't benefit or get harmed.

■ IF YOU EVER FEEL LONELY, IT MIGHT COMFORT YOU TO KNOW THAT THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF TINY CREATURES ON YOUR FACE!



ELONGATED BODY LIKE A WORM TO FIT INTO HAIR FOLLICLES.

NEEDLE-LIKE MOUTH.

HOOKS FOR MOVEMENT.

■ DEMODEX MITES LAY HEART-SHAPED EGGS – PRETTY CUTE!

■ Demodex means 'fat boring worm'!

WORLD'S ANIMAL PER

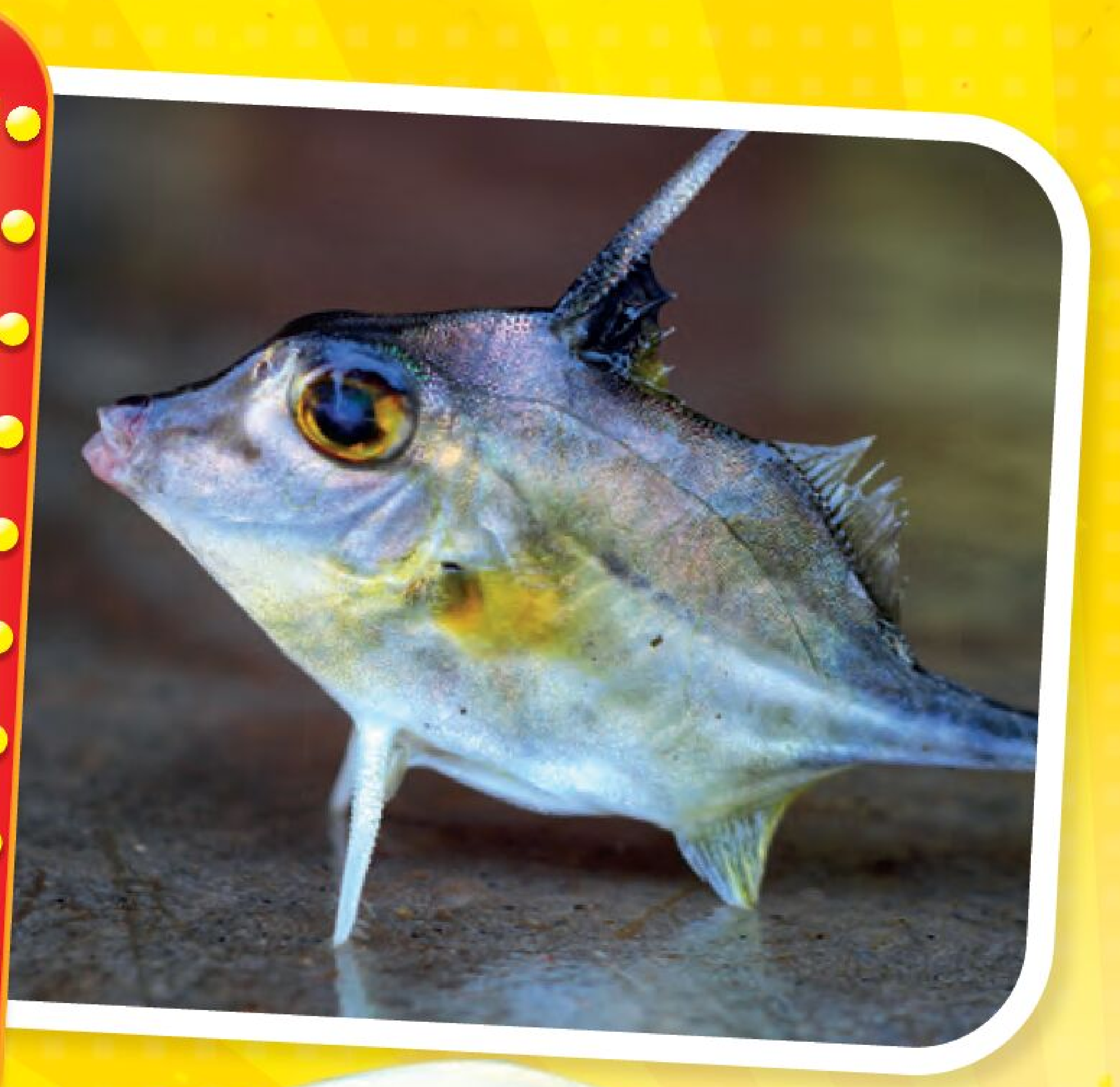
ROLL UP, ROLL UP, FOR THE

JUGGLERS

Sea otters love to juggle stones and they can even do it with their eyes shut! They carry around their favourite pebbles their whole lives and use them as tools.

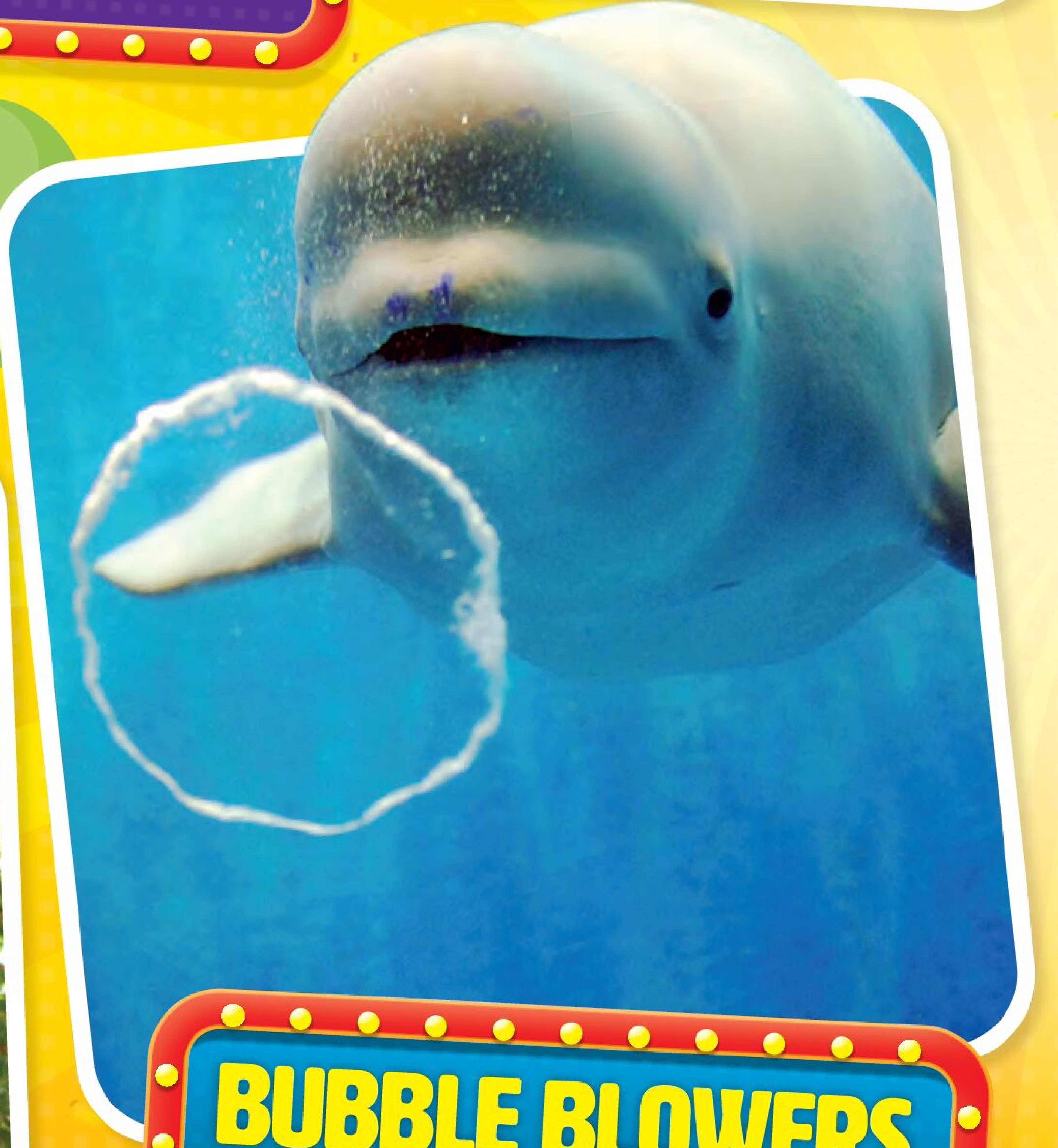
STILT WALKER

The tripod fish has three long, bony fins it uses like stilts to stroll along the sea floor. It stands still waiting for the current to bring prawns, fish and crustaceans right into its mouth.



TRAPEZE ARTIST

Spider monkeys are king of the swingers. With just one swoosh of an arm they can leap up to nine metres. Their extra-long fingers act like hooks to give them a better grip as they swing from branch to branch.



BUBBLE BLOWERS

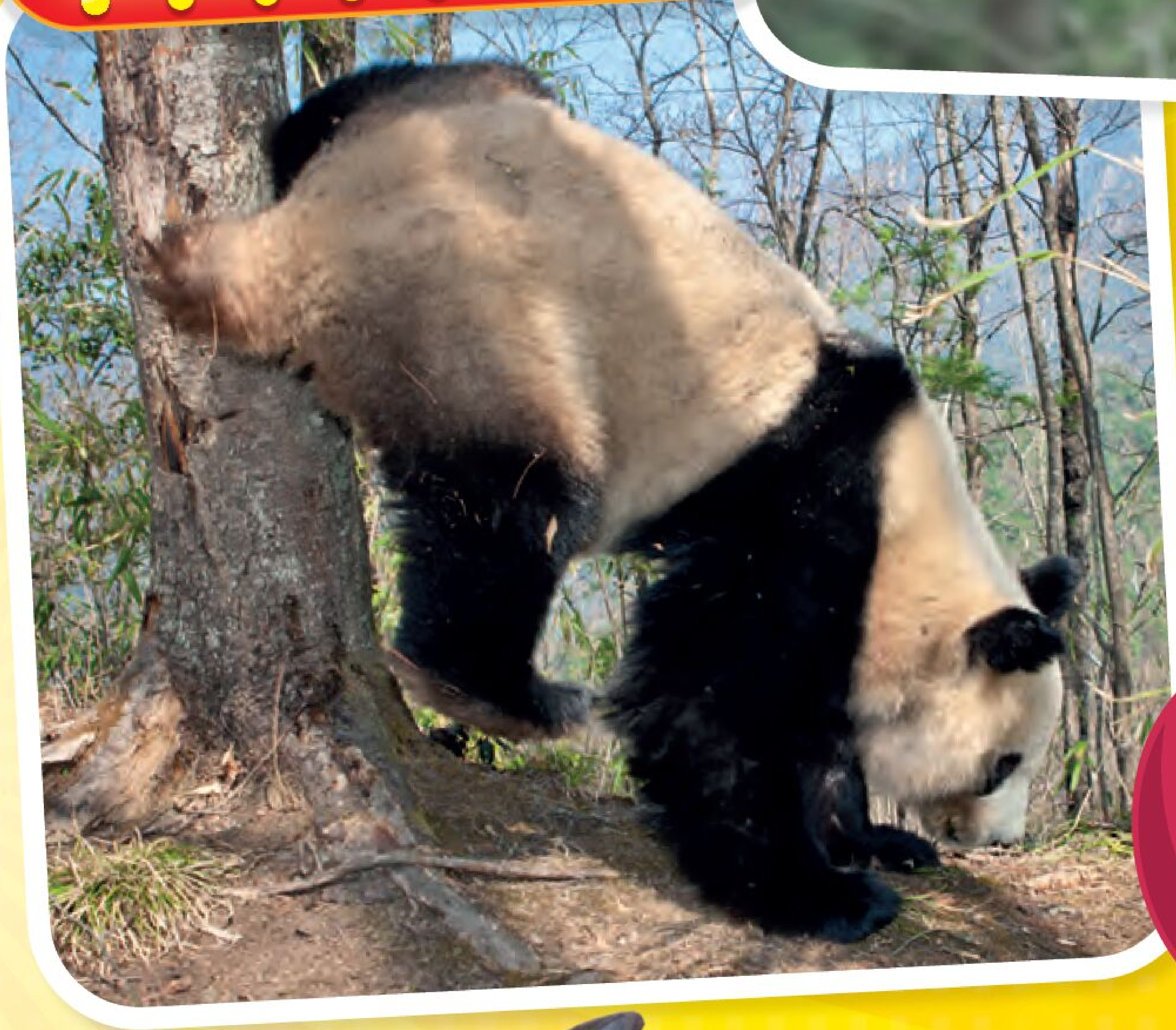
Beluga whales blow giant bubble rings and swim through them! They play with them to change their shape and have been seen blowing them at other belugas for them to pop.

WILDEST FORMERS!

GREATEST SHOW ON PLANET EARTH!

HANDSTANDS

Giant pandas like to pee while doing handstands! They do it to mark their territory. The higher up a tree they wee, the further their scent travels.



TIGHTROPE WALKER

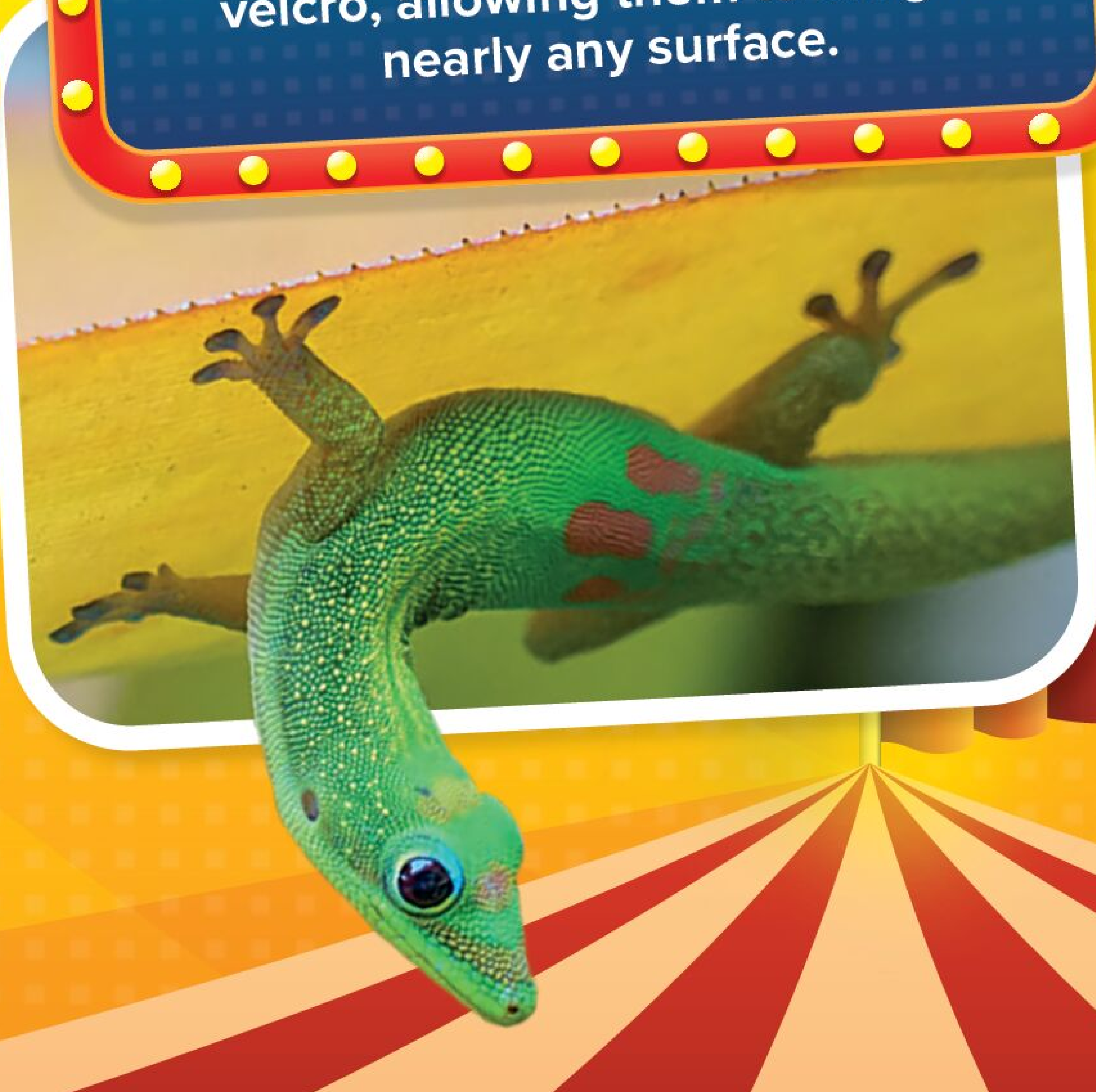
Spending 90% of their time in the treetops, red pandas have developed amazing acrobatic skills. Treating branches like tightropes, they use their bushy tails to help keep their balance the same way a gymnast uses their hands.

GRAVITY DEFYING

Geckos can walk up walls and along ceilings upside-down, totally defying the laws of gravity! They have hairy toes that act like velcro, allowing them to cling to nearly any surface.

ESCAPE ARTISTS

Octopuses are famous for legging it from aquariums. Their bodies are soft and boneless so a 45kg Pacific octopus can squeeze through a hole the size of a cherry tomato. They're super-smart — undoing latches, untying knots, opening locks and one was even caught deliberately flooding an aquarium.



THE WORLD'S BIG

THIS IS NO ITSY-BITSY SPIDER! THE GOLIATH BIRDEATER TARANTULA IS THE BIGGEST ARACHNID ON THE PLANET. IT CAN GROW TO THE SIZE OF A DINNER PLATE – GULP!

It may have eight eyes, but its eyesight is very poor and it can't hear or smell its prey. The goliath relies on the hairs on its body to pick up the smallest vibrations around it to catch dinner.

Tarantulas don't build webs, they sneak up and pounce on their prey. They spin silk for their burrows instead.

When they feel threatened they hiss! To do this, they rub their legs together which are covered in hooks and barbs. You can hear it up to 15 feet away.

ONE TARANTULA CAN LAY UP TO 150 EGGS AT A TIME! SHIVER!

They can regrow their limbs! The goliath is covered in an exoskeleton it can shed and replace with a bigger one.

GEST SPIDER!

The **goliath birdeater** got its name when it was discovered for the first time – eating a hummingbird!

THE FEMALES CAN LIVE TO UP TO 20 YEARS OLD. THE MALES ONLY LIVE 3-6 YEARS.

Their fangs are **2.5 inches** long! The same length as a cheetah's claw!

DESPITE THEIR NAME, THEY RARELY EAT BIRDS. THEY MUCH PREFER WRIGGLY WORMS, RODENTS, SNAKES, BATS AND LIZARDS.

Their venom dissolves prey so they can suck them up!

THEY SHOOT STINGING HAIRS AT PREDATORS! IT'S LIKE BEING BLASTED WITH PEPPER SPRAY!

THE STATS!

WEIGHT:

175g (the same as a newborn puppy!)

SCIENTIFIC NAME:

Theraphosa blondi

HABITAT:

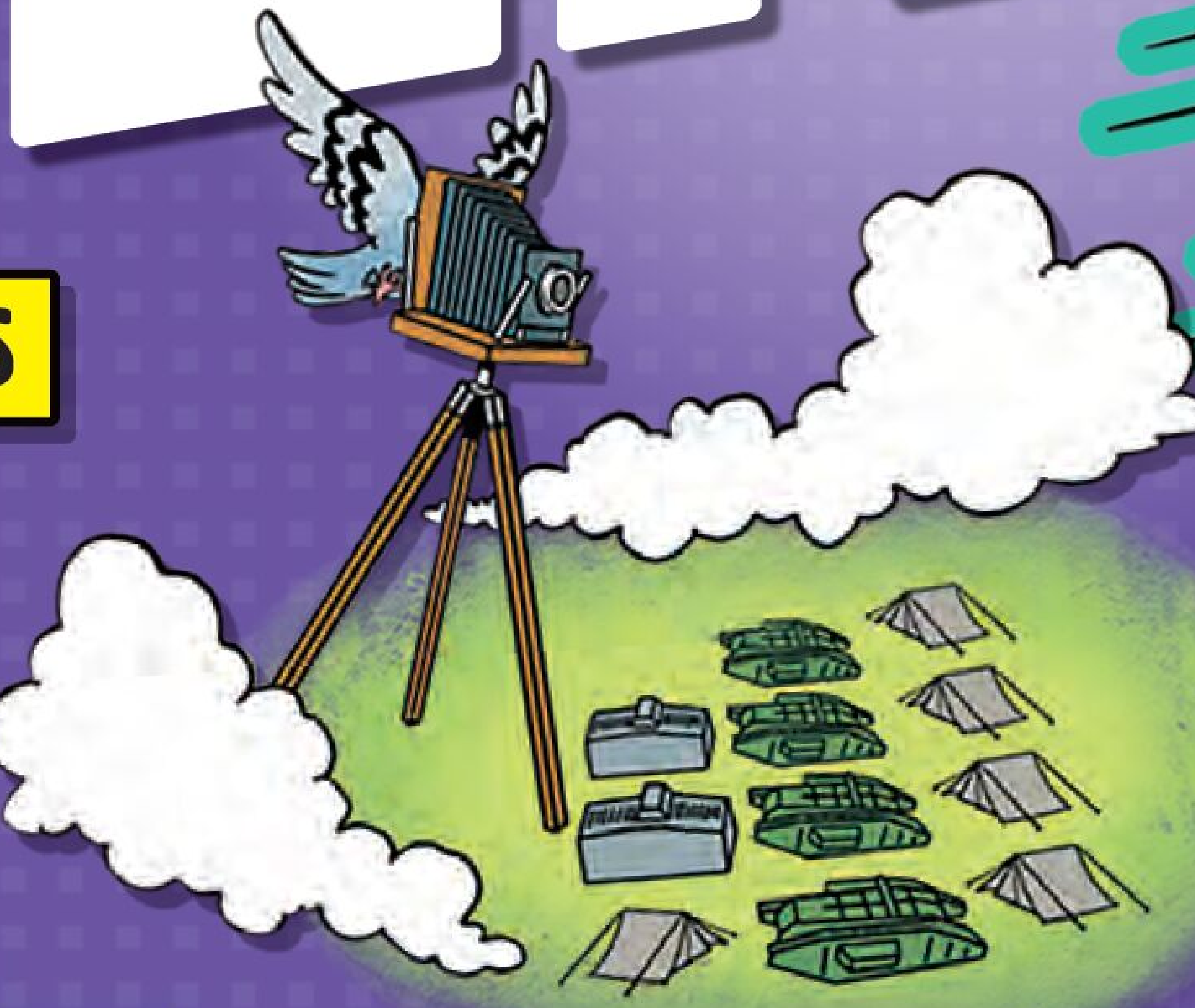
In the rainforests of Suriname, Guyana, French Guiana, Southern Venezuela and Northern Brazil.

DID YOU KNOW?

In some parts of South America they eat the **goliath birdeater** roasted in a banana leaf! It's supposed to taste like prawns.

THEY'RE NO **BIRD BRAINS** – OUR FEATHERED FRIENDS HAVE HELPED WIN WARS, SAVE LIVES AND BEEN **TOP-SECRET SPIES**!

PIGEON HEROE



AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Before there were drones, there were pigeons! In 1907, a German pharmacist called **Julius Neubronner** invented bird-mounted cameras so pigeons could take photos from the air. During the World Wars they were used to get info about troop movements and air bases!

LIGHTNING FAST

Pigeons can hit speeds of up to 60mph and travel over 600 miles without stopping. Super navigators, they can even find their way home when blindfolded!

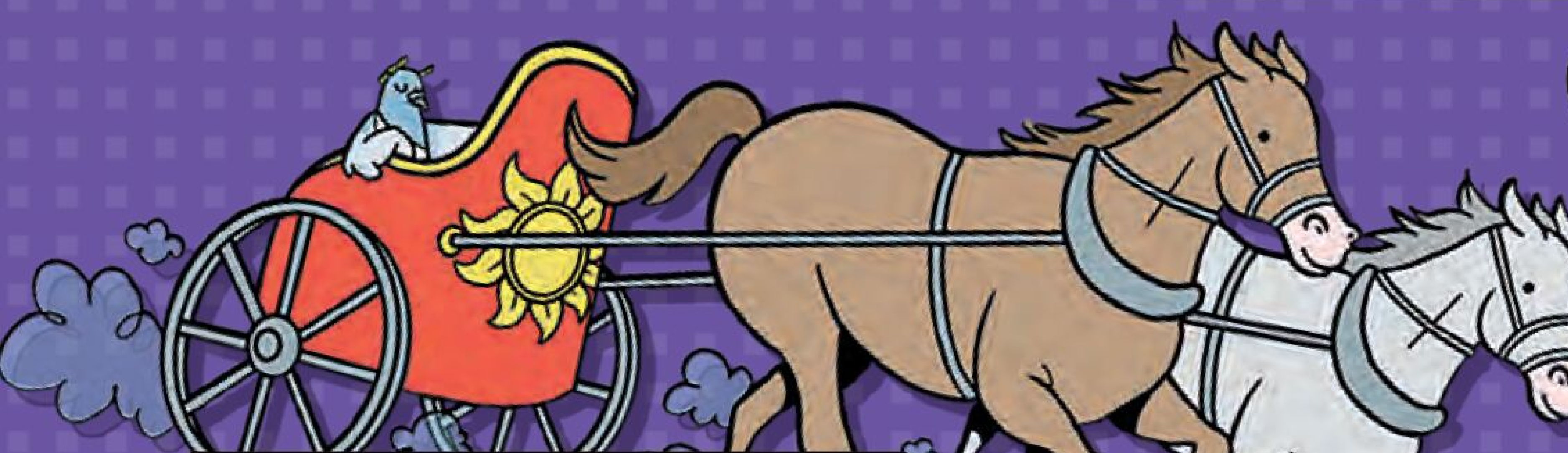
GO GREEN
NO to FOSSIL FOOLS!
SAVE OUR PLANET...
...Or we'll Stage a "COO"!
HOW DARE YOU?

ECO-WARRIORS

Pigeons helped tackle air pollution! The **Pigeon Air Patrol** took to the skies of London in 2016 wearing sensors so they could help monitor how badly polluted the air was.

COASTGUARDS

Researchers trained pigeons to carry out air-sea rescues! Travelling in helicopters they would peck a keyboard that set off a warning light whenever they spotted a life jacket. They were much more reliable and quicker at spotting survivors than humans were!



PIGEONUS MAXIMUS

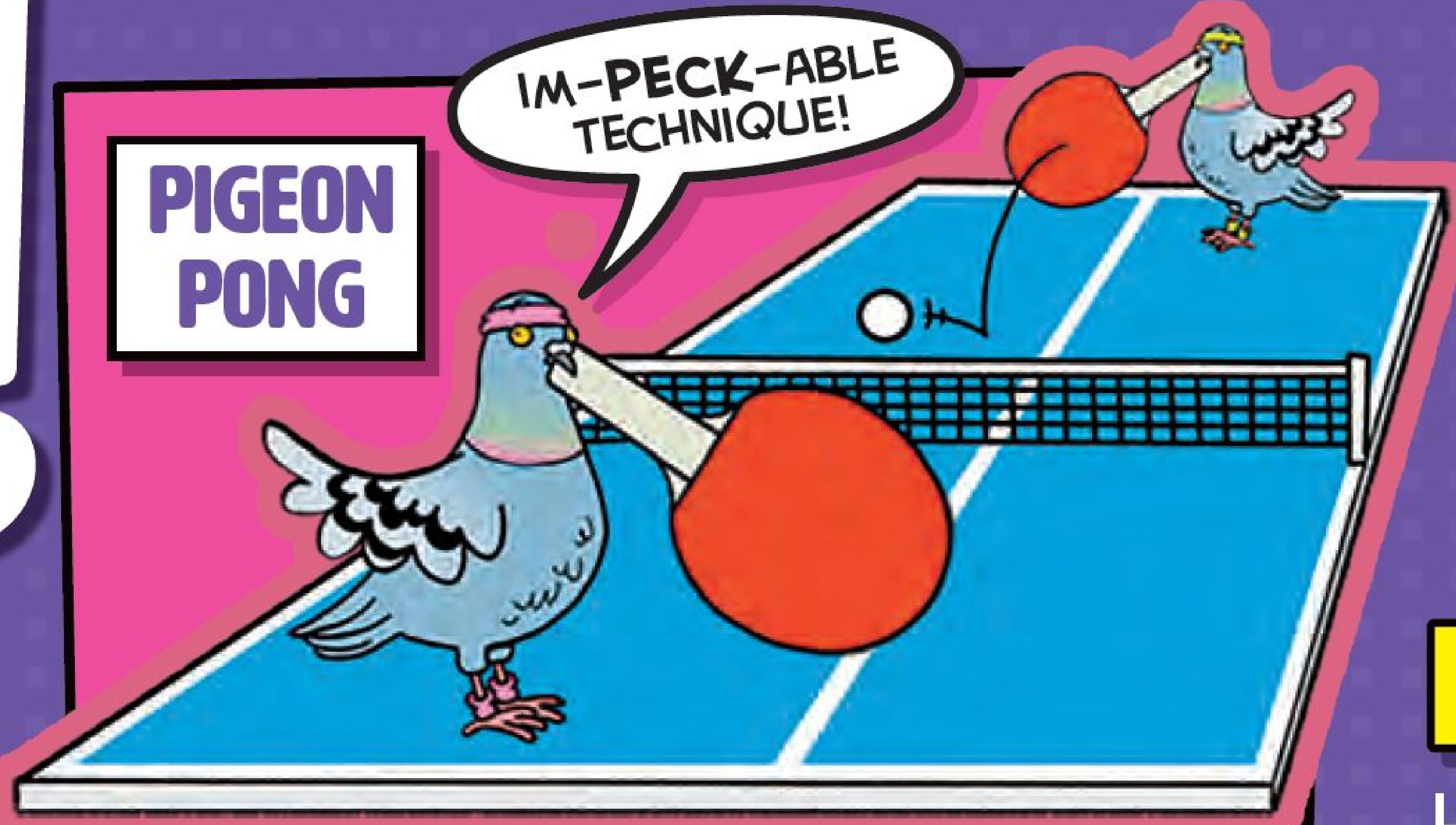
Julius Caesar used pigeons to communicate with his legions of armies, which helped him conquer Gaul.

HEAR YE, HEAR YE!

OLYMPIC CHAMPS

In ancient Greece, pigeons went from town to town to spread the results of the Olympic Games!

S!

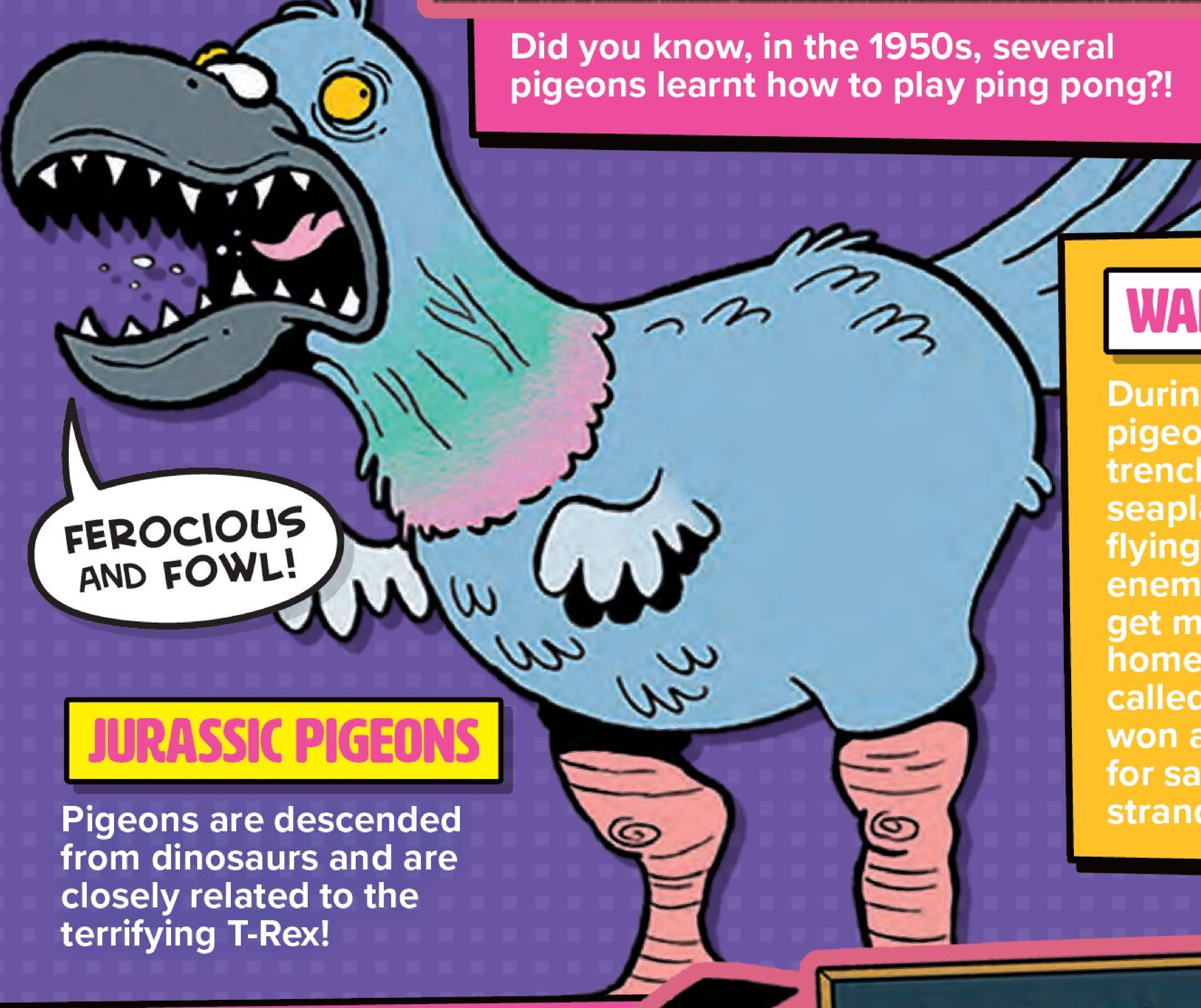

IM-PECK-ABLE TECHNIQUE!

PIGEON PONG

Did you know, in the 1950s, several pigeons learnt how to play ping pong?!

FAMOUS FANCIERS

Lots of celebrities have been pigeon fanciers (a person who keeps pigeons) including **Elvis**, **Walt Disney**, **Monet** and **Picasso**.


FEROCIOUS AND FOWL!

JURASSIC PIGEONS

Pigeons are descended from dinosaurs and are closely related to the terrifying T-Rex!

WAR HEROES

During World War I, pigeons would be in the trenches, in tanks, on seaplanes and boats, flying through enemy fire to get messages home. One bird called **Cher Ami** won a medal for saving a battalion of 194 stranded soldiers!

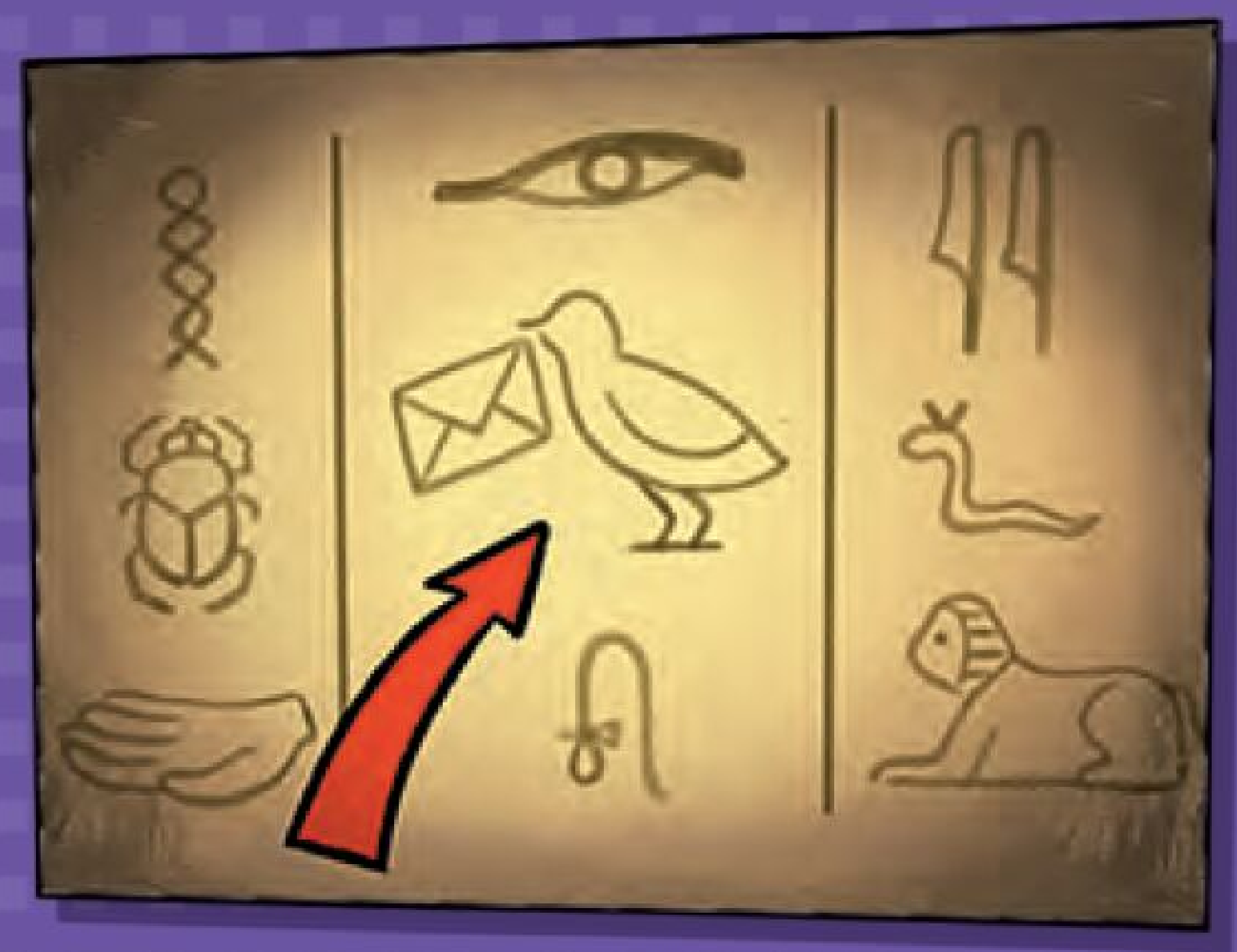
4 x 9 = 36
56 ÷ 7 = 8
12 x 13 = 156

BIRD BRAINIACS

They were the first bird to be tamed over 5,000 years ago. They can recognise their own reflections, can be taught the alphabet, can learn numerical rules and tell the difference between different art styles.

PIGEON POST

Egyptians used pigeons like a postal service to send messages and small packages. Pigeons can even be seen in the hieroglyphs and tombs of the pharaohs!



EXPLOSIVE POOP

In the 16th century, pigeon poo was used to make gunpowder! It was so sought after, armed guards were stationed at the gates of pigeon houses to protect them.

EVOLUTION INSPO

Charles Darwin loved pigeons and kept them as pets. He studied them in his garden and based his theory of evolution on them.

MINI MARVEL!

IS IT A BIRD? IS IT A PLANE? NO, IT'S THE PYGMY FLYING MOUSE!

● Don't let the name fool you – the pygmy flying mouse doesn't actually fly! These tiny creatures have a thin membrane of skin, known as a patagium (pa-ta-gee-um), which stretches from their elbow to their knee. When it launches from a tree, this special skin fold stretches open like a parachute, allowing the little mammal to glide through the air. It can 'fly' for an astonishing 28m!

0 cm 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
*Not actual size

These miniscule pilots are just 6.5–8cm long!

FUN FACT

Despite its name, the pygmy flying mouse is not a mouse. It's actually a marsupial – like a kangaroo or a wombat – and is native to eastern Australia.

● The pygmy flying mouse is also known as the pygmy feathertail glider. It uses its fringed tail to steer during the glide, just like a rudder on a ship!

MEASURE UP!

Discover how the pygmy flying mouse measures up to the world's smallest animals.

5.5 cm

BEE HUMMINGBIRD

The male bee hummingbird is just 5.5 cm long!

6-8 cm

SPECKLED PADLOPER TORTOISE

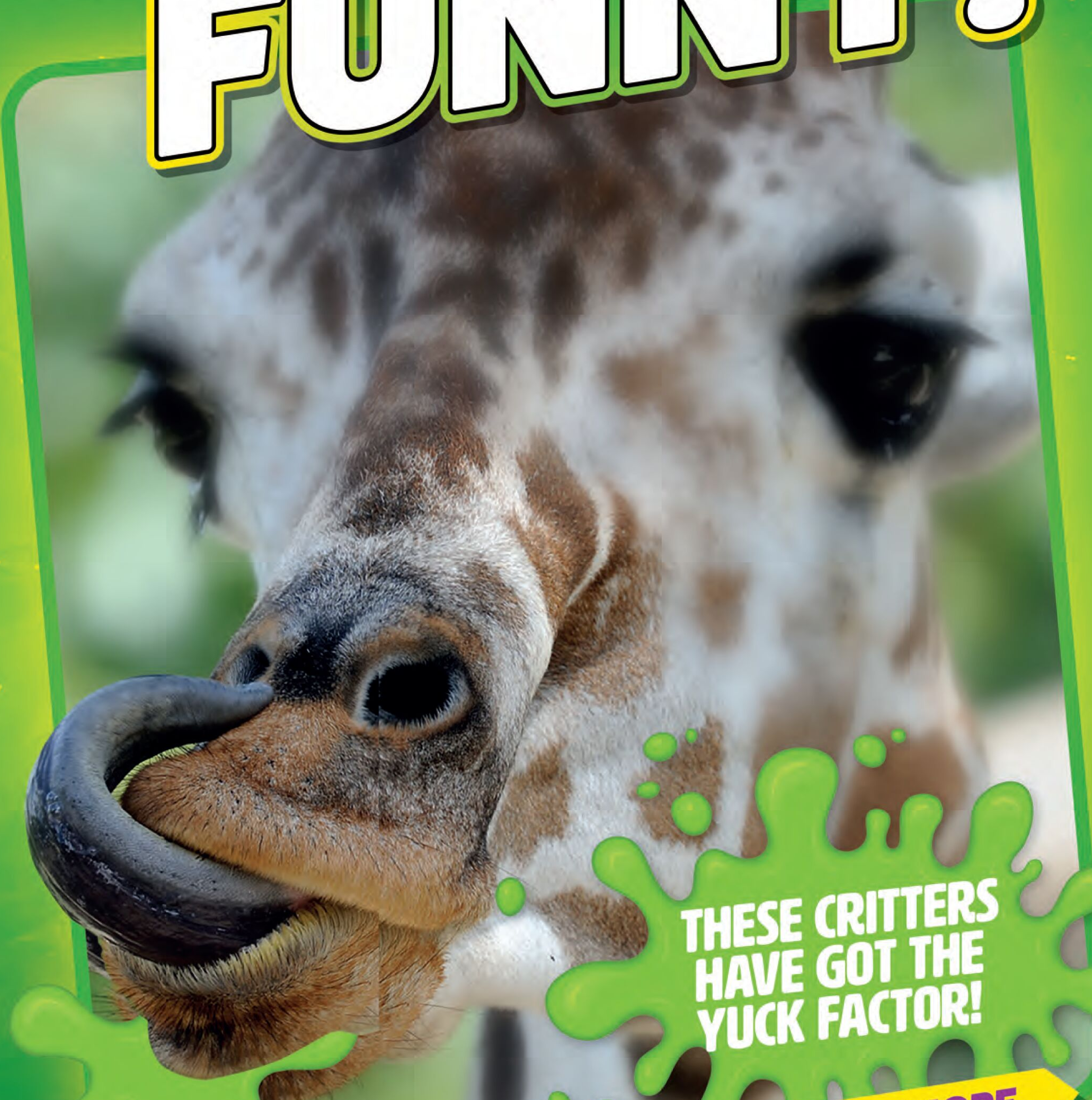
This tiny tortoise could fit in your pocket!

5-7 cm

HARVEST MOUSE

The UK's smallest rodent can weigh as little as a 2p piece!

SNOT FUNNY!



THESE CRITTERS HAVE GOT THE YUCK FACTOR!

TURN OVER TO FIND OUT MORE...

SNOT SHIELD!

■ The Californian sheephead fish cocoons itself in a layer of mucus at night so predators can't sense it!

MMM... READY SALTED!

YOU'RE HAVING A GIRAFFE!

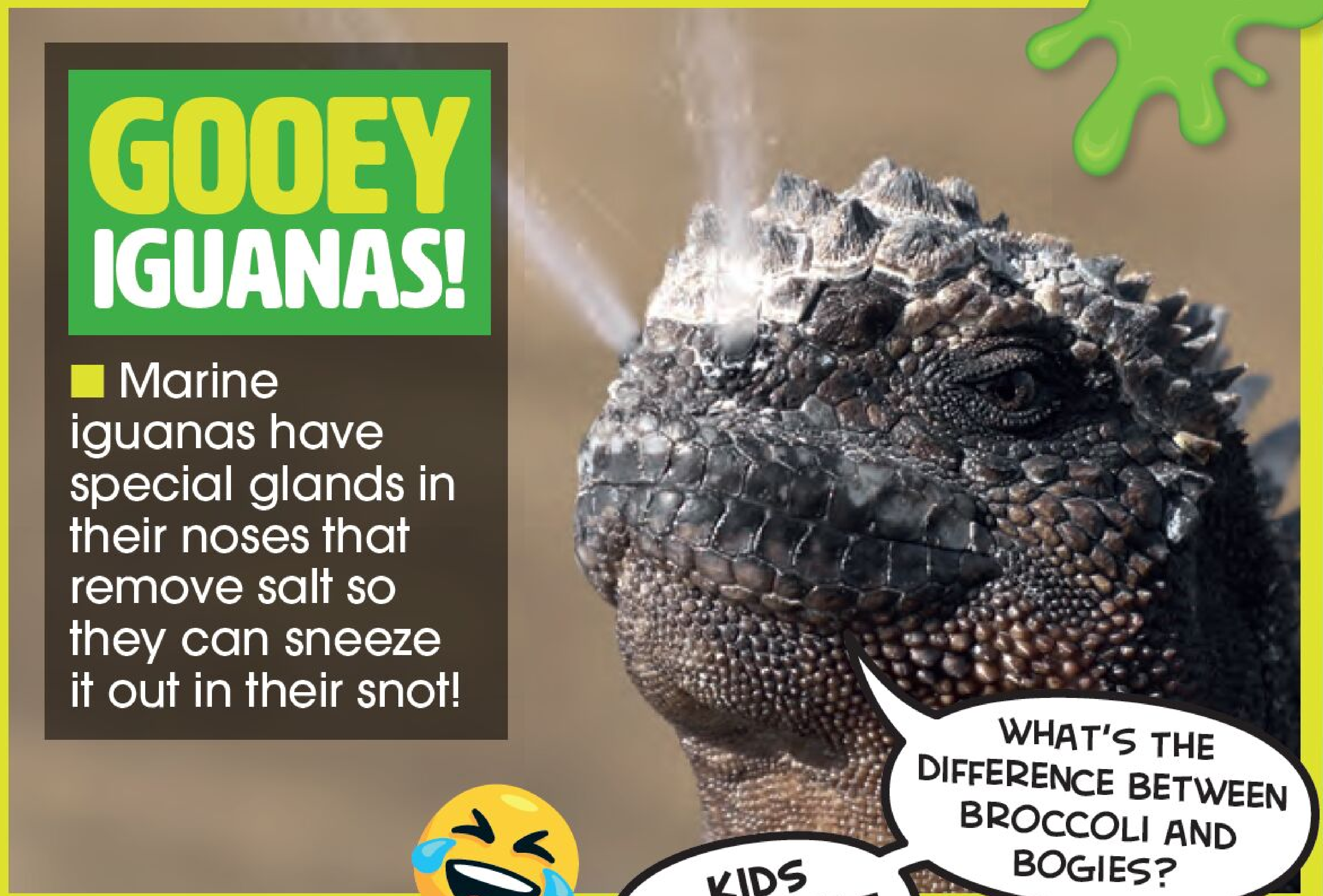
■ GIRAFFES USE THEIR GIANT TONGUES TO GO RUMMAGING FOR BOGIES!

BABY BOOGERS!

● Bonobo monkeys clean out their babies' nostrils by sucking out the boogers!

GOOEY IGUANAS!

■ Marine iguanas have special glands in their noses that remove salt so they can sneeze it out in their snot!

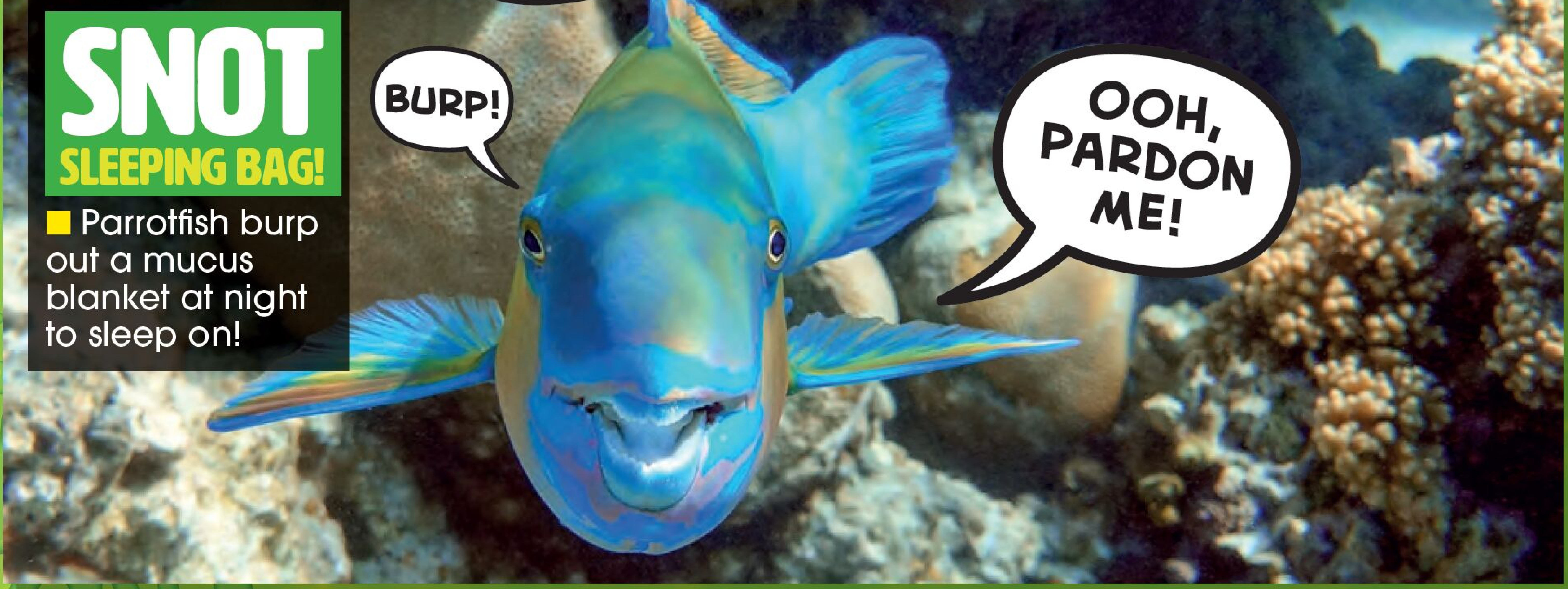

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BROCCOLI AND BOGIES?
KIDS WON'T EAT BROCCOLI!

FLYING PHLEGM!

■ Seals and sea lions don't pick their noses, they hock up their phlegm and spit it out! Ew!

SNOT SLEEPING BAG!

■ Parrotfish burp out a mucus blanket at night to sleep on!


BURP!
OOH, PARDON ME!

WHALEY GROSS!

- Scientists fly drones called SnotBots into the plumes whales shoot out of their blowholes to collect their boogers for research!

STINGING SNOT!

- The upside-down jellyfish attacks by blasting out snot packed with venom-filled bombs that contain a nasty sting! No wonder jellyfish are nicknamed 'The Boogers of the Sea!'

BOOGER BOAT!

- The violet sea snail gets around by making a bubble raft out of its own mucus!

FRANKENSLIME!

- When threatened, hagfish can squirt out up to one litre of mucus which clogs up the mouth of any predator trying to eat it!

I'M SURE I LEFT A BANANA UP HERE!

CRAFTY CAPUCHINS!

GORILLAS AND CHIMPANZEES ARE ALWAYS PICKING THEIR NOSES! CAPUCHIN MONKEYS USE STICKS TO PICK GREEN GOLD OUT OF THEIRS!

FORGET LUNCH BOXES AND BACKPACKS... MEET THE CREATURES THAT CAN STORE SNACKS IN THEIR CHEEKS!

CHEEKY ANIMALS

HAMSTER

- Their cheek pouches have the ability to stretch to almost three times the animal's size! This definitely comes in handy in times of danger, as not only can they carry food in them, they can also transport bedding and even their young should they need to scarper at short notice!

POCKET GOPHER

- Unlike the rest of these cheeky animals, pocket gophers keep their pouches on the outside of their faces… not the inside! Their cheek pouches, which are also called pockets (hence the name!), are lined with fur and are used to gather, store and transport food that they foraged underground.

BABOON

- Part of a subfamily containing 45 species of monkey, baboons have cheek pouches that go all the way down the sides of their neck. They use them to store fruit, nuts and seeds.

CHIPMUNK

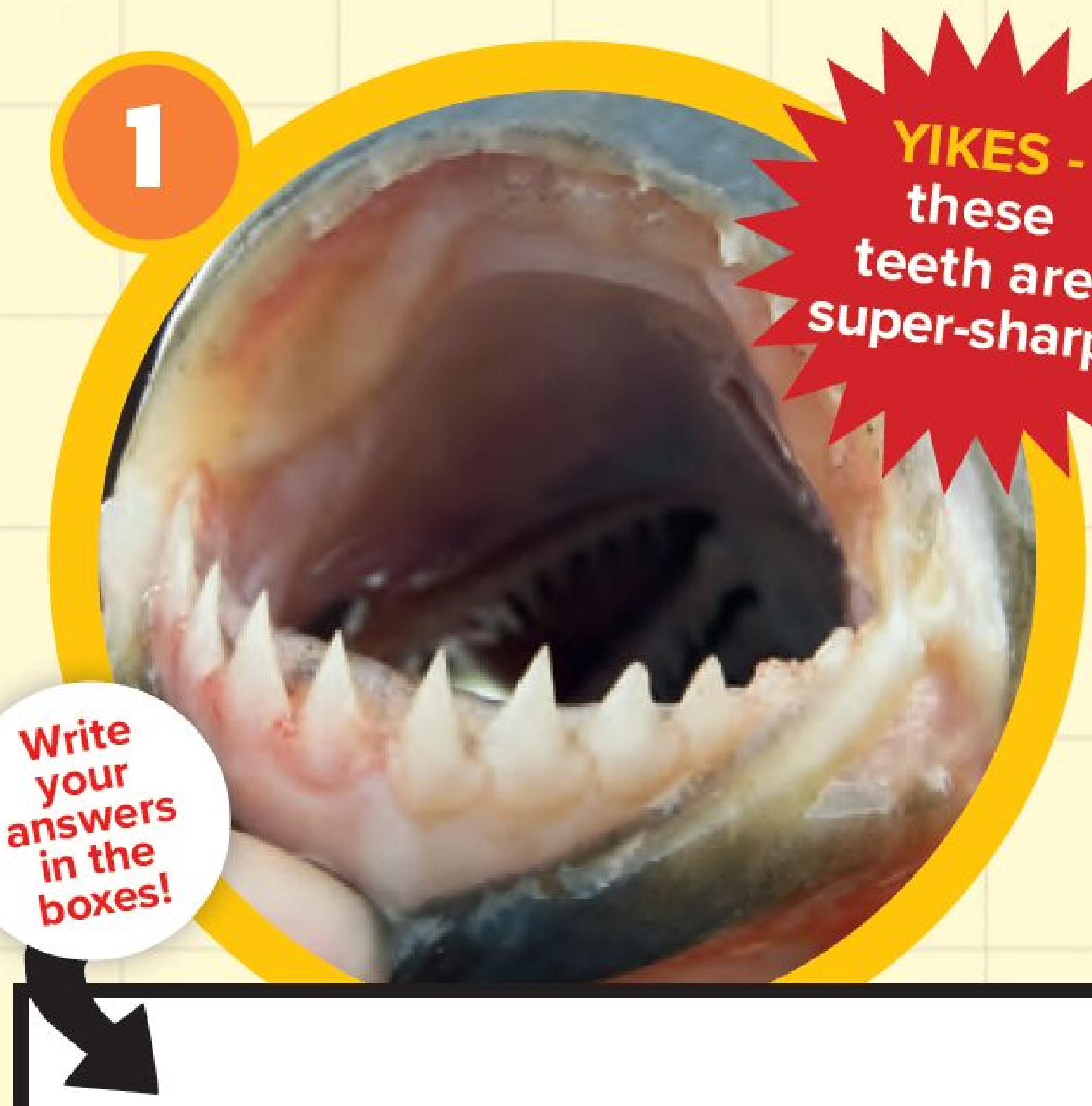
- Chipmunks are able to carry items as big as themselves in their cheek pouches - they can be stretched to be three times the size of their head! Their pouches are used most in the lead-up to winter when the small animals store and transport food to their homes, ready to graze on through the cold months.

THE CHEEK OF IT!

Say Cheese!

CAN YOU MATCH THE ANIMALS TO THEIR GNASHERS?

1

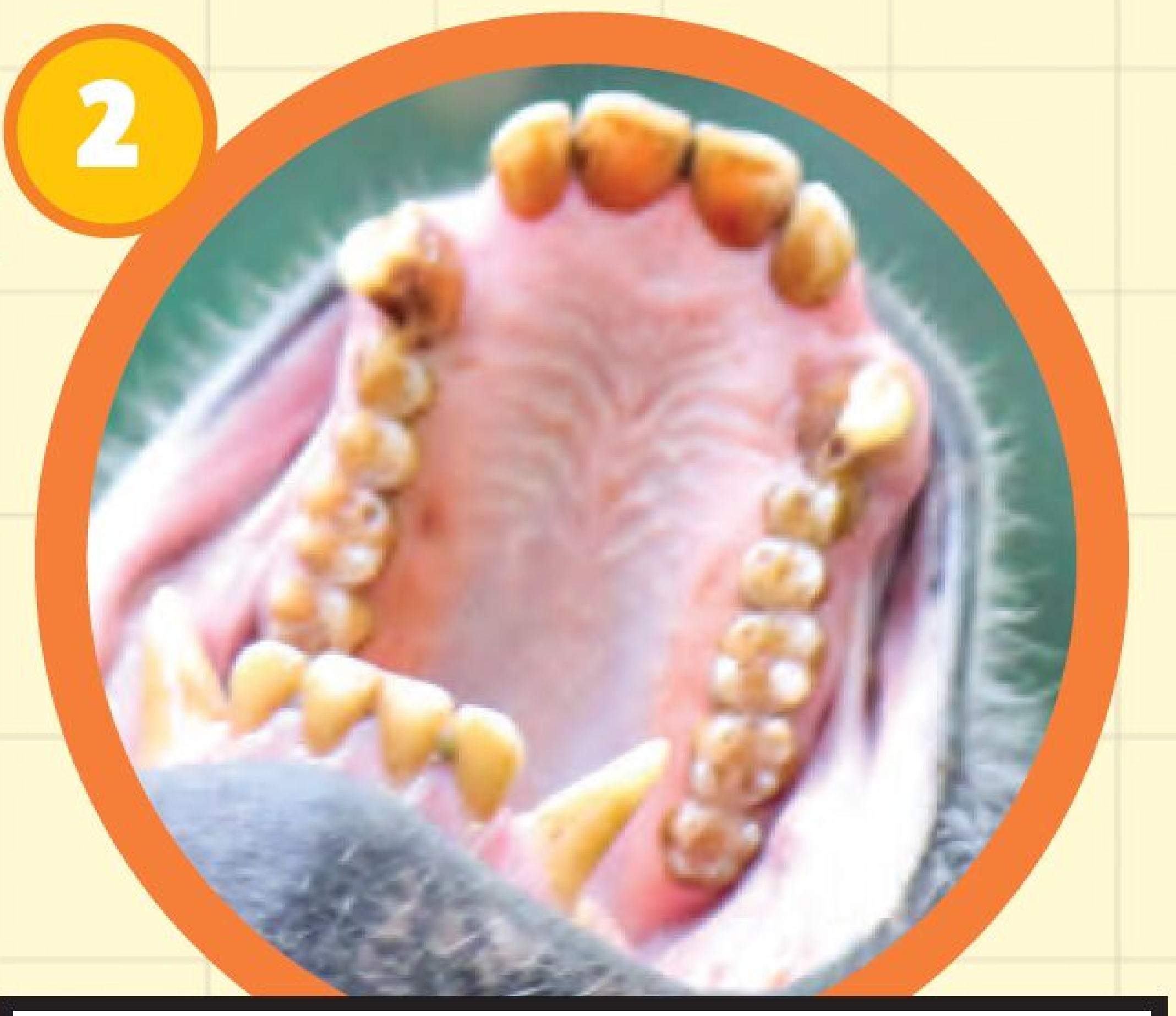


YIKES - these teeth are super-sharp!

Write your answers in the boxes!

....

2



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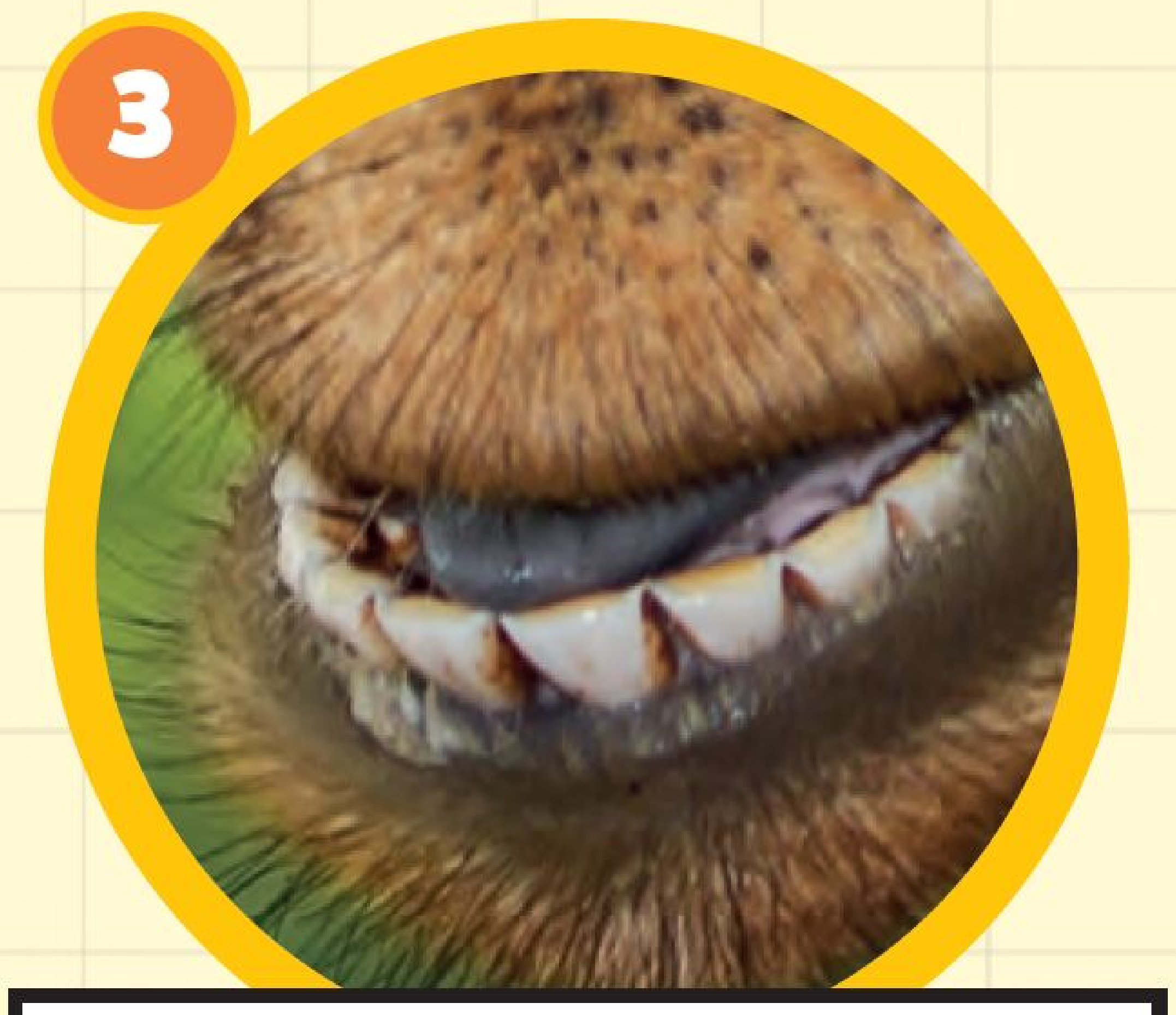

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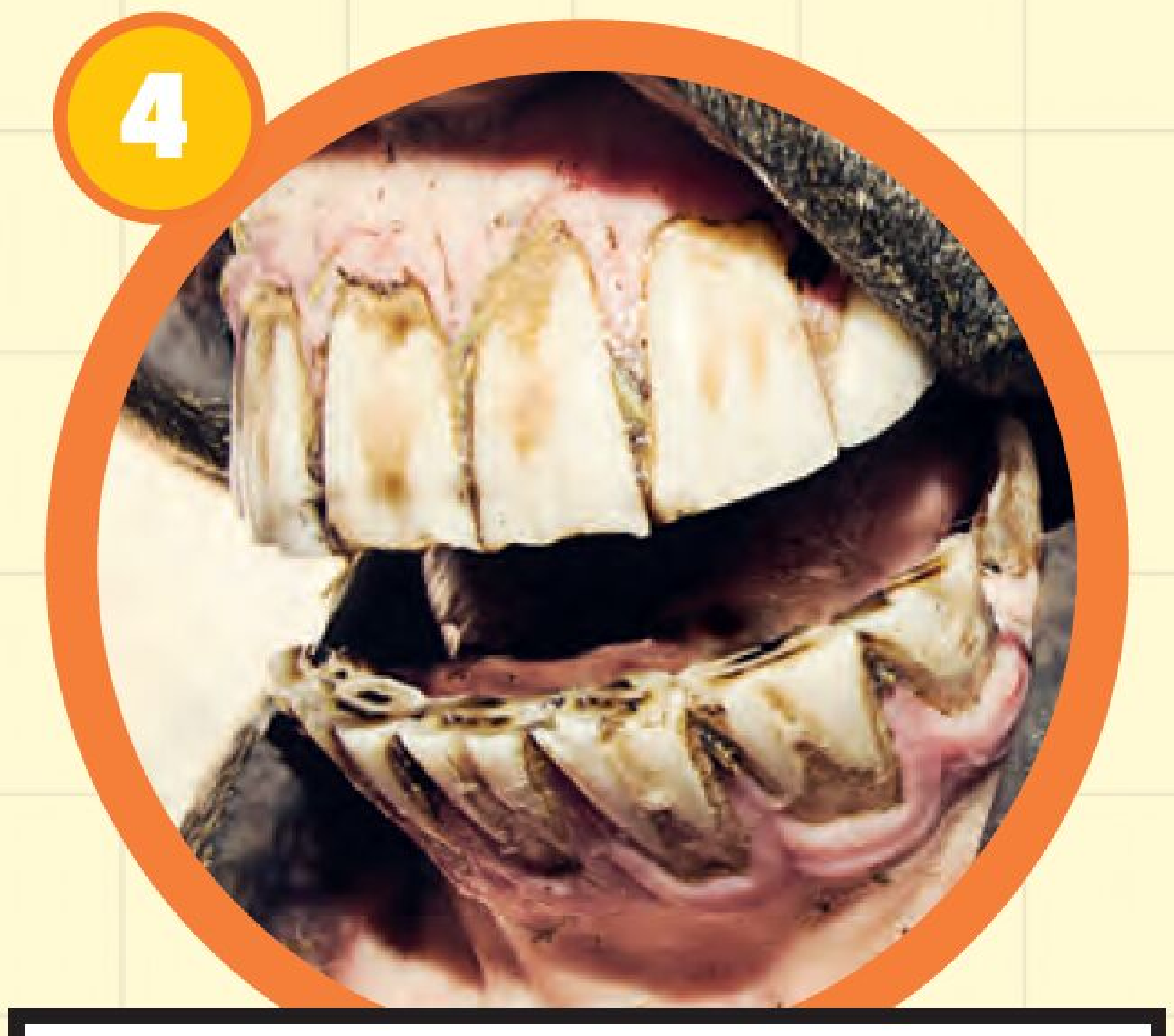

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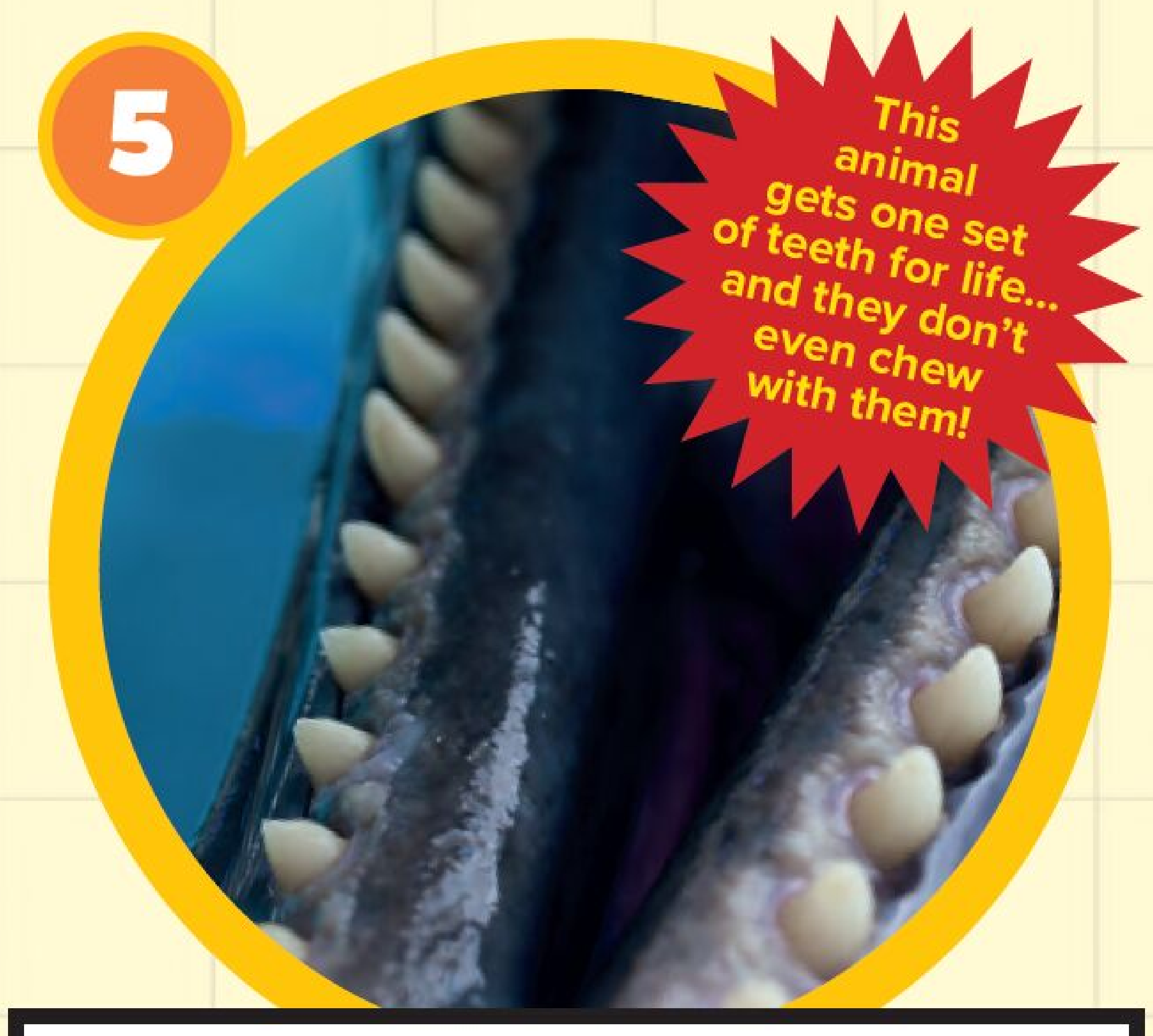
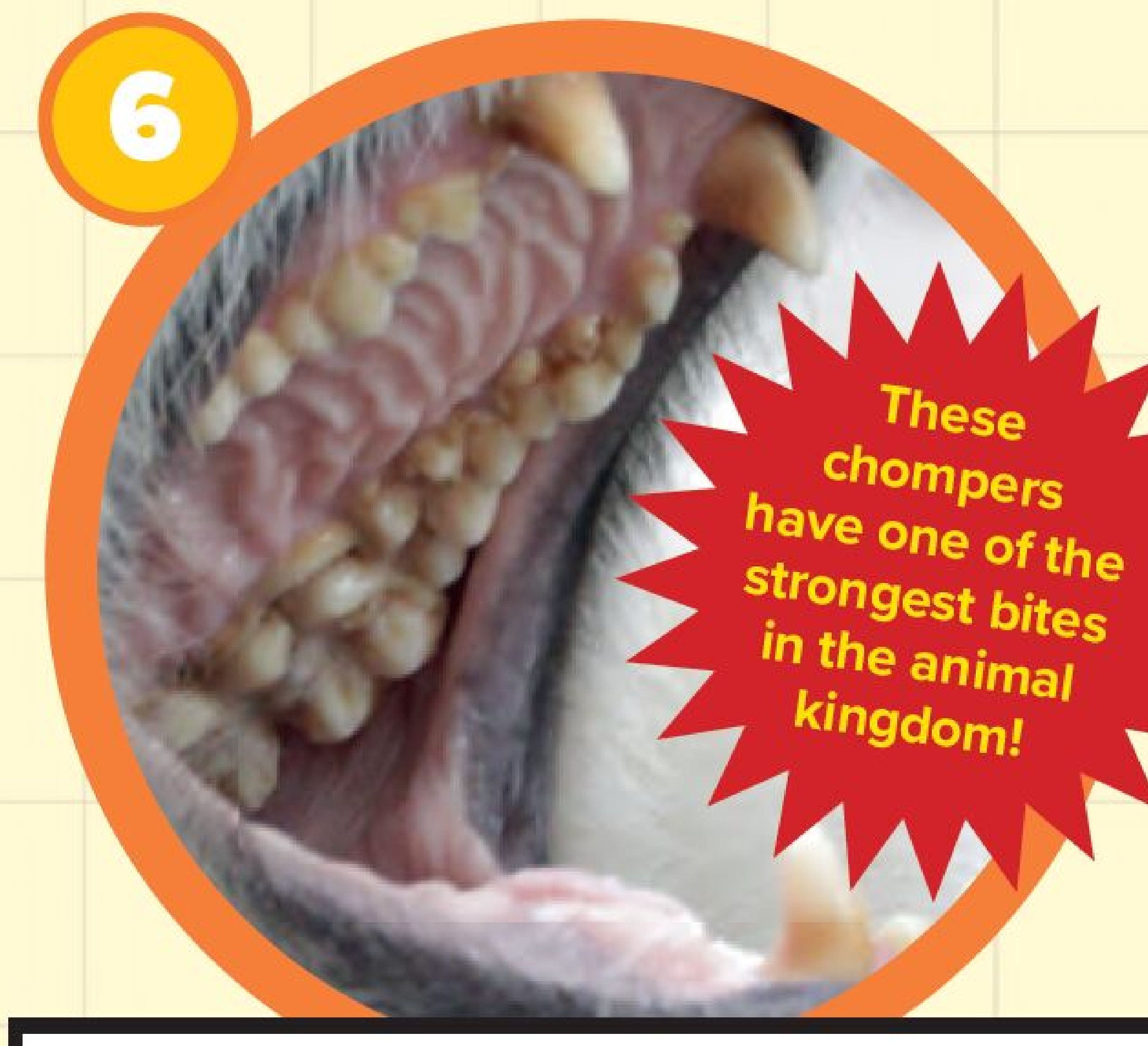
5



This animal gets one set of teeth for life... and they don't even chew with them!

....

6



These chompers have one of the strongest bites in the animal kingdom!

....

PIRANHA

HORSE

CHIMPANZEE

PANDA

GIRAFFE

DOLPHIN

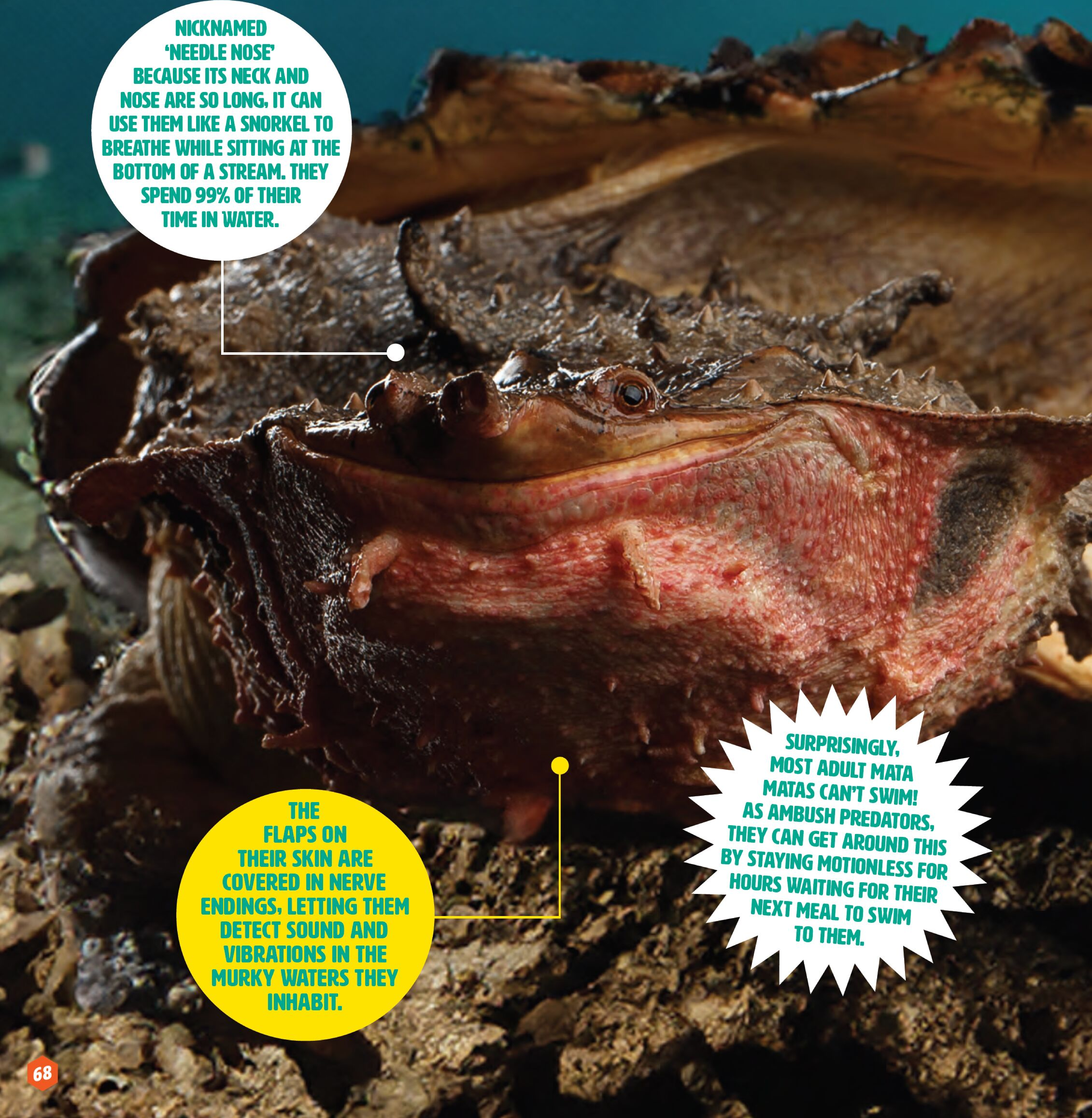
1. Piranha 2. Chimpanzee 3. Giraffe 4. Horse 5. Dolphin 6. Panda

WOW! IT REALLY EXISTS!

The unbe-leaf-able MATA MATA TURTLE!

● Good luck spotting this freshwater turtle, it's a master of camouflage! The mata mata's head looks like a leaf and its textured shell allows it to disguise itself as tree bark floating in the water. Tree-ly cool, eh?

Native to South America, mata matas can't chew so they suction feed. They wait for fish to come by, open their mouth as wide as they can, creating a low-pressure vacuum that hoovers the fish up.



NICKNAMED 'NEEDLE NOSE' BECAUSE ITS NECK AND NOSE ARE SO LONG, IT CAN USE THEM LIKE A SNORKEL TO BREATHE WHILE SITTING AT THE BOTTOM OF A STREAM. THEY SPEND 99% OF THEIR TIME IN WATER.

SURPRISINGLY, MOST ADULT MATA MATAS CAN'T SWIM! AS AMBUSH PREDATORS, THEY CAN GET AROUND THIS BY STAYING MOTIONLESS FOR HOURS WAITING FOR THEIR NEXT MEAL TO SWIM TO THEM.

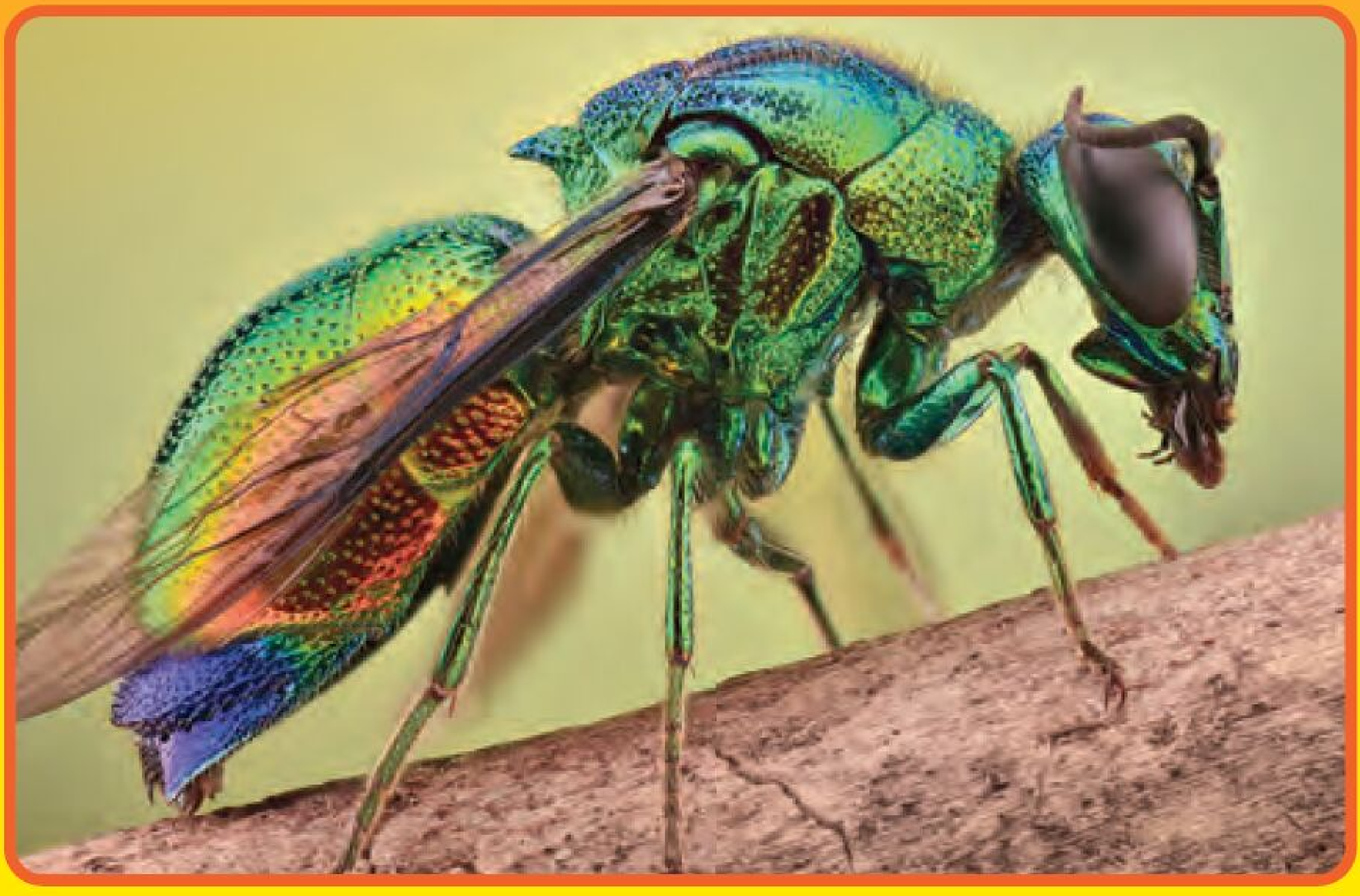
THE FLAPS ON THEIR SKIN ARE COVERED IN NERVE ENDINGS, LETTING THEM DETECT SOUND AND VIBRATIONS IN THE MURKY WATERS THEY INHABIT.

BUGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW EXISTED!

THESE BUGS WILL CHANGE YOUR PERCEPTION OF CREEPY CRAWLIES!

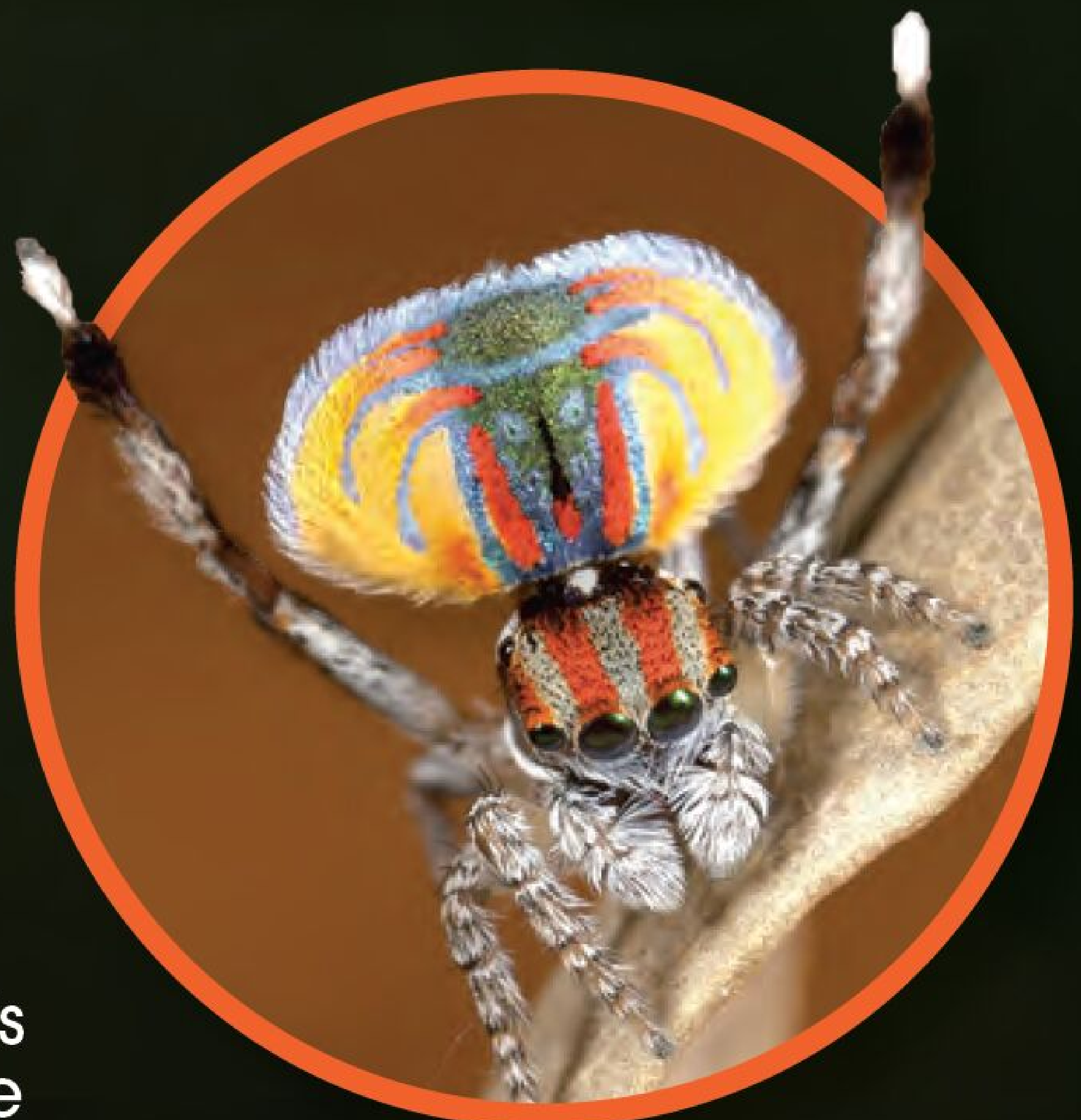
CUCKOO WASP

These bright and bold wasps are actually sneaky little tricksters! Their name comes from the fact they leave their eggs in other solitary wasps' nests which then take over the nest.



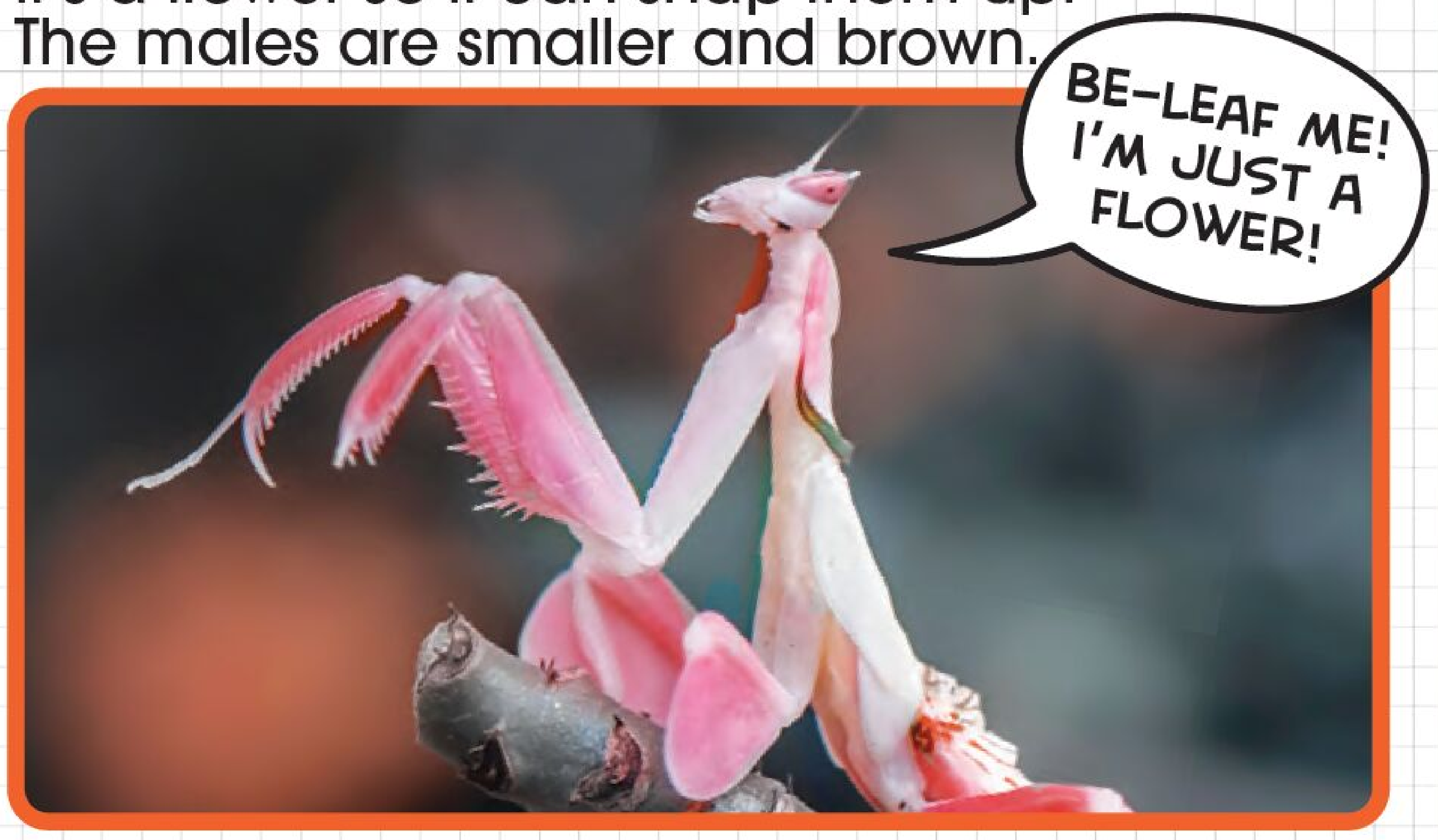
PEACOCK SPIDER

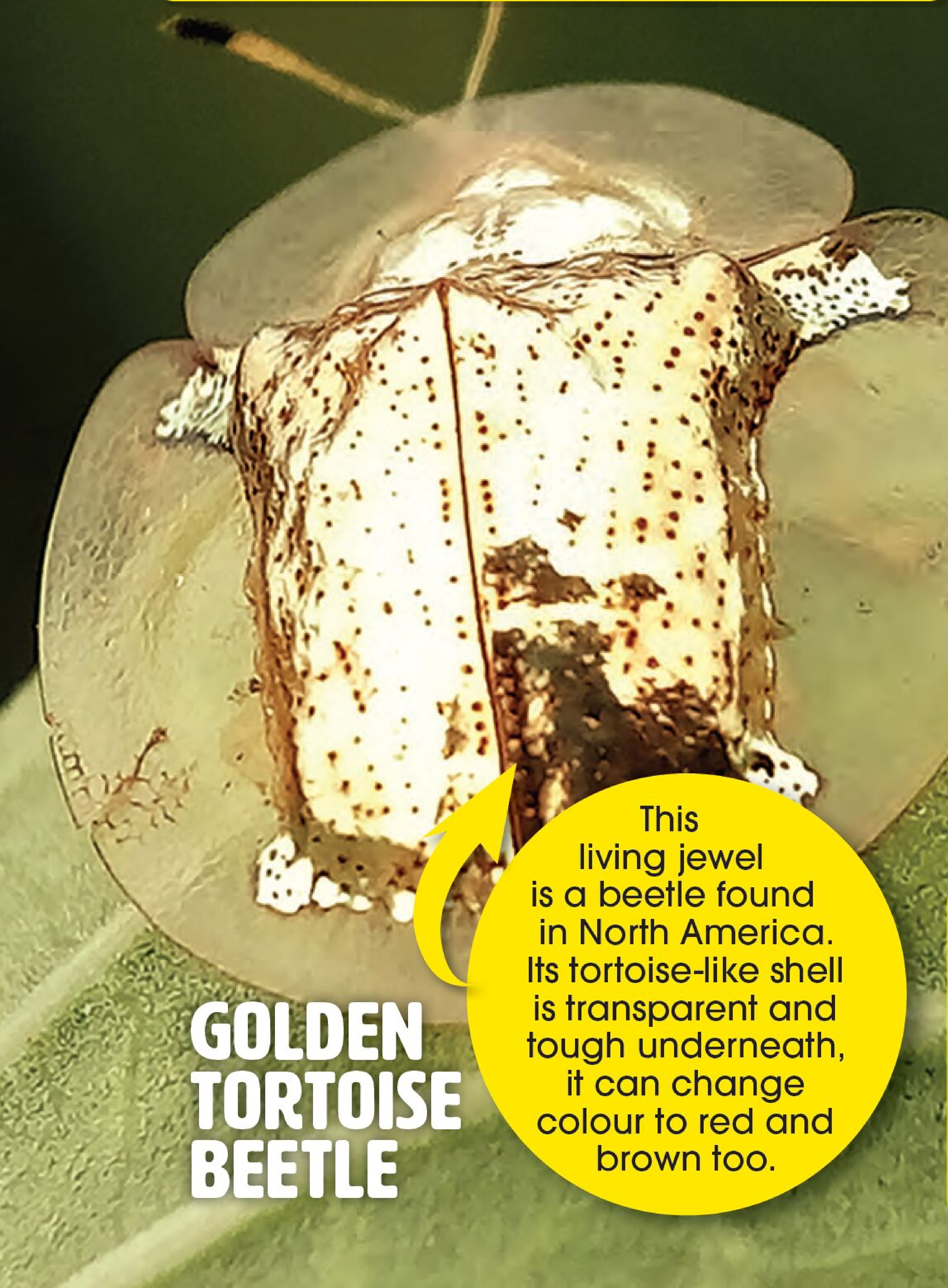
Mostly found in Western Australia, there are lots of different species of peacock spider. It's the males that are colourful and dance to attract females! But if she doesn't like his moves, the female spider might eat him!



ORCHID MANTIS

The pretty pink and white mantis is the female of the species and resembles petals of an orchid to trick prey into thinking it's a flower so it can snap them up! The males are smaller and brown.



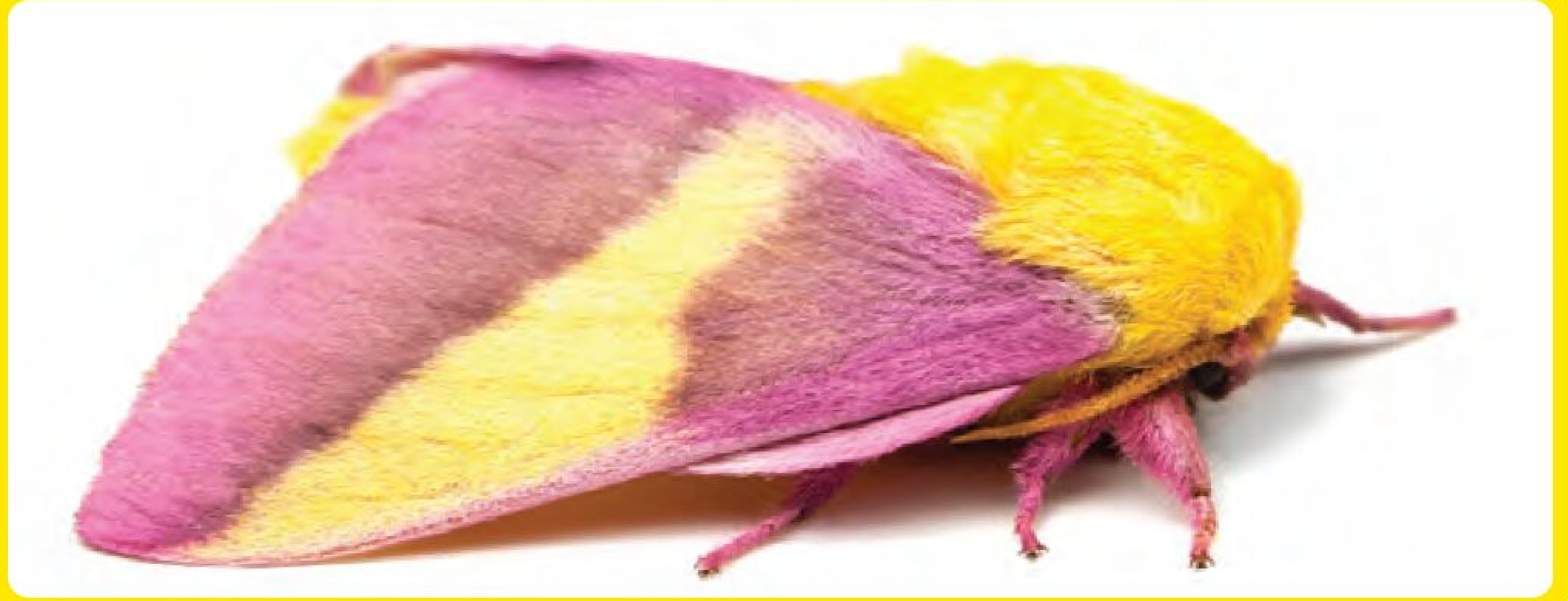


GOLDEN TORTOISE BEETLE

This living jewel is a beetle found in North America. Its tortoise-like shell is transparent and tough underneath, it can change colour to red and brown too.

ROSY MAPLE MOTH

Not to be mistaken for a lollipop! Moths aren't always brown and dull – there are colourful and fluffier alternatives. These ones are found in North America and usually munch on maple trees — inspiring the name!



THE PETS OF ANCIENT EGYPT

CATS

▲ Cats were believed to be magical creatures that would bring good luck to your house, so they were very popular pets in ancient Egypt. Egyptian royalty would dress their cats in jewels and let them eat from their plates!

I TOLD YOU I'M IM-PURR-TANT!

THE PUNISHMENT FOR HARMING A CAT IN ANCIENT EGYPT WAS THE DEATH PENALTY!

▲ When a cat died, their owners would shave off their eyebrows and mourn until all the hair grew back. Mummified cats have been found in the tombs of their owners who wanted to stay with them in the afterlife.

DOGS

▲ **Dog breeds like the Basenji, Greyhound, Ibizan and the Pharaoh Hound were guard dogs for families. Egyptians are credited with the creation and use of the first dog collar and leash - shown in very early wall paintings!**

HA! TAKE THAT, CATS!

BULLS

Bulls were sacred animals in ancient Egypt, they were seen as symbols of power. Pharaohs often kept them as pets to symbolise their strength!

FALCONS

Pharaohs and kings kept falcons for hunting.

MONKEYS

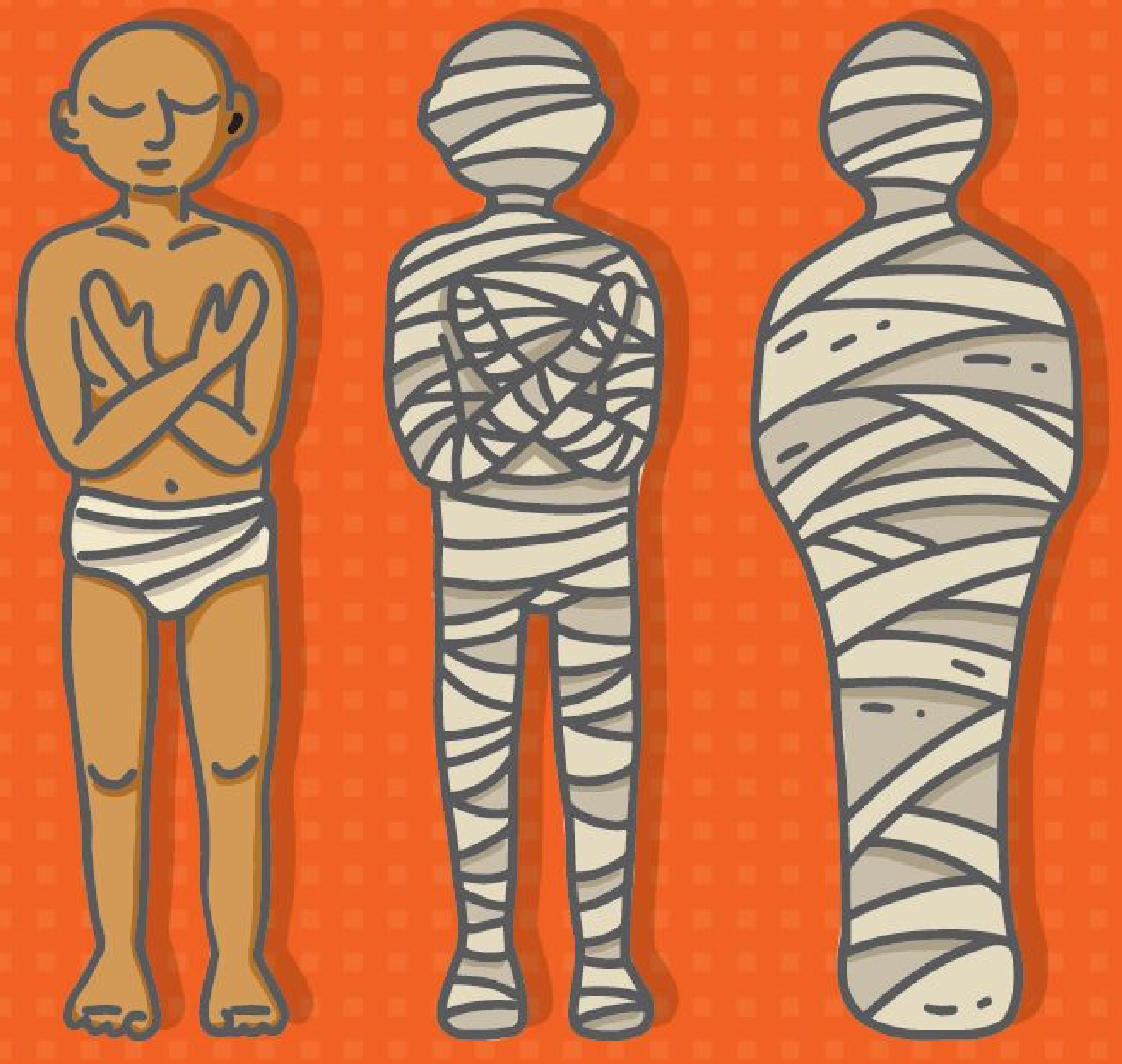
Unbelievably, monkeys and baboons were also popular pets. Monkeys were easy to train and could fetch things for their owners.

DUNG BEETLE

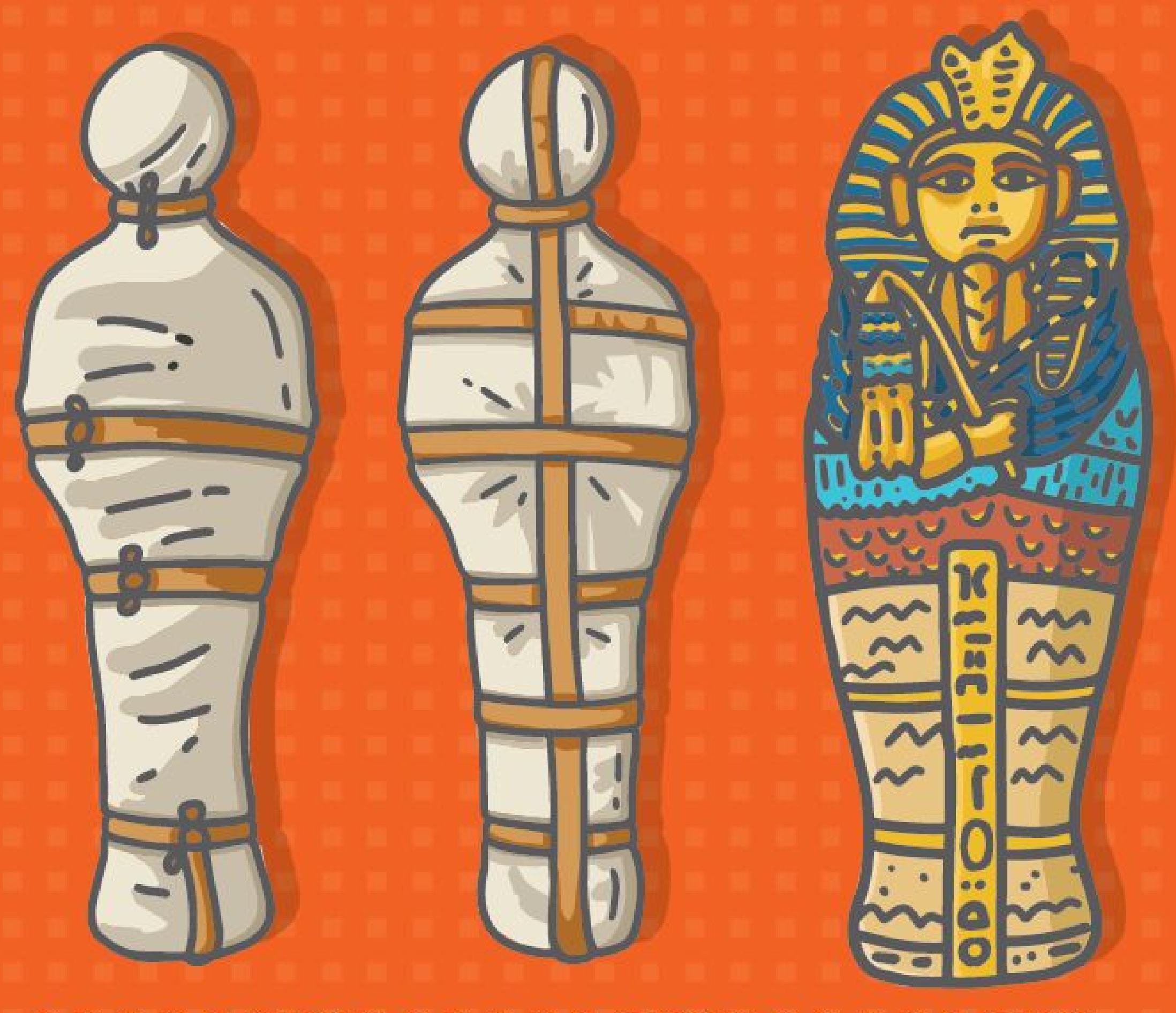
Scarabs, a type of dung beetle, were common pets for children in ancient Egypt even though they dig around in poop all day! Dung beetle shells were even made into jewellery!

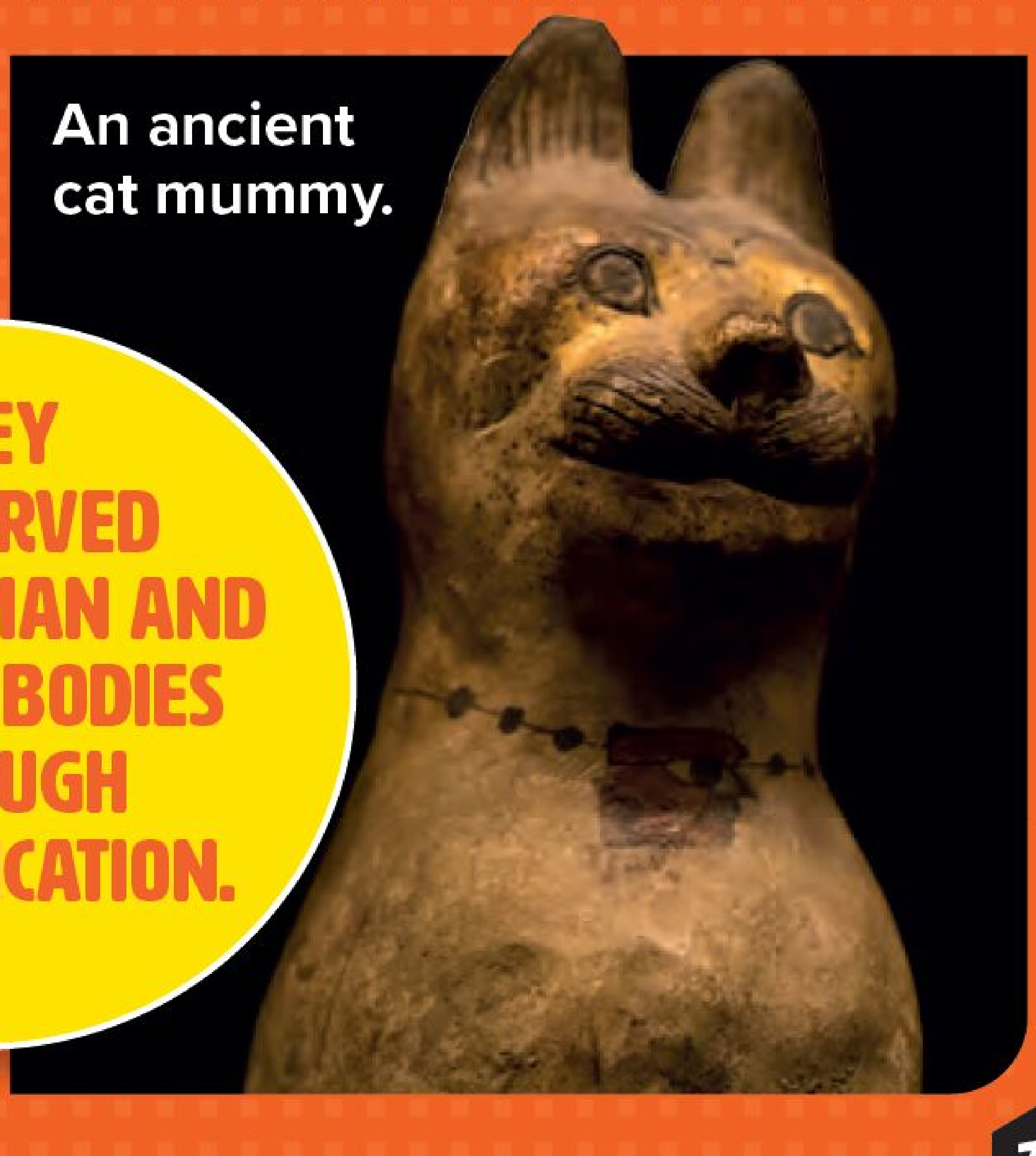
STEP BY STEP

MUMMIFICATION



1. The body was cleaned.
2. All organs removed.
3. The body dried out for 40-50 days.
4. Carefully wrapped in layers of linen.
5. Wrapped mummy placed in a stone or wooden sarcophagus.
6. Buried in ancient tombs.





An ancient cat mummy.

THEY PRESERVED BOTH HUMAN AND ANIMAL BODIES THROUGH MUMMIFICATION.

TRUE OR FALSE?

DO YOU KNOW YOUR PARLIAMENTS FROM YOUR DAZZLES?

A COLLECTIVE NOUN IS USED TO DESCRIBE A GROUP OF THINGS... AND THERE ARE SOME PRETTY WEIRD ONES FOR THE ANIMAL KINGDOM!

1
A PARLIAMENT OF OWLS
TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

2
A DAZZLE OF ZEBRAS
TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

3
A WADDLE OF PENGUINS
TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

4
A CREAMER OF COWS
TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

WE'RE THE CREAM OF THE CROP!

5
A BLOAT OF HIPPOS
TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

6
A KNOT OF TOADS
TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

7
A NUGGET OF CHICKENS
TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

8
A GALAXY OF STARFISH
TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

9
A MESS OF IGUANAS
TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

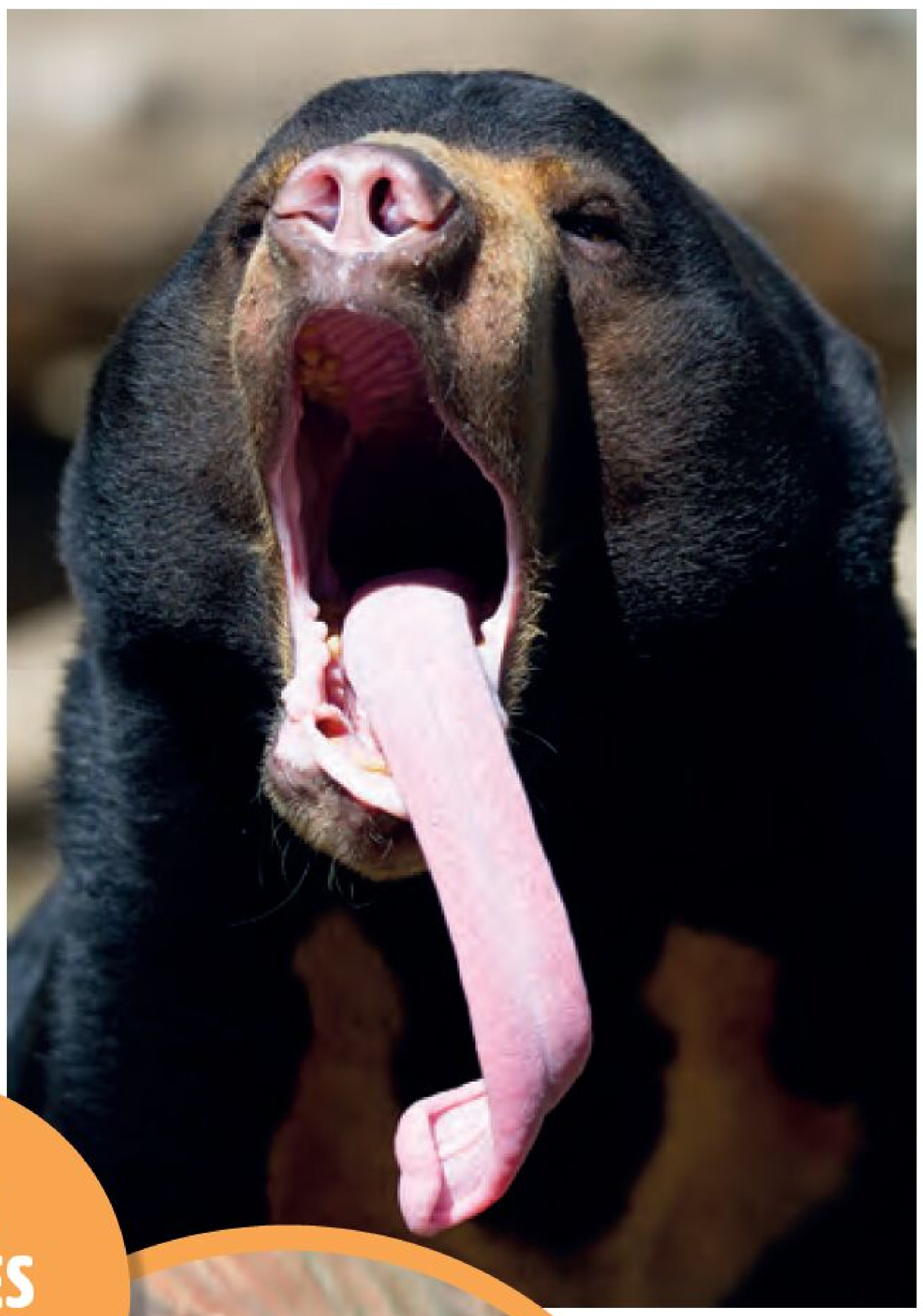
10
A CONSPIRACY OF LEMURS
TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐

WHY SHOULDN'T YOU TRUST LEMURS?
THEY'RE FULL OF TALL TAILS!

Answers: 4 and 7 are false. The rest are true!

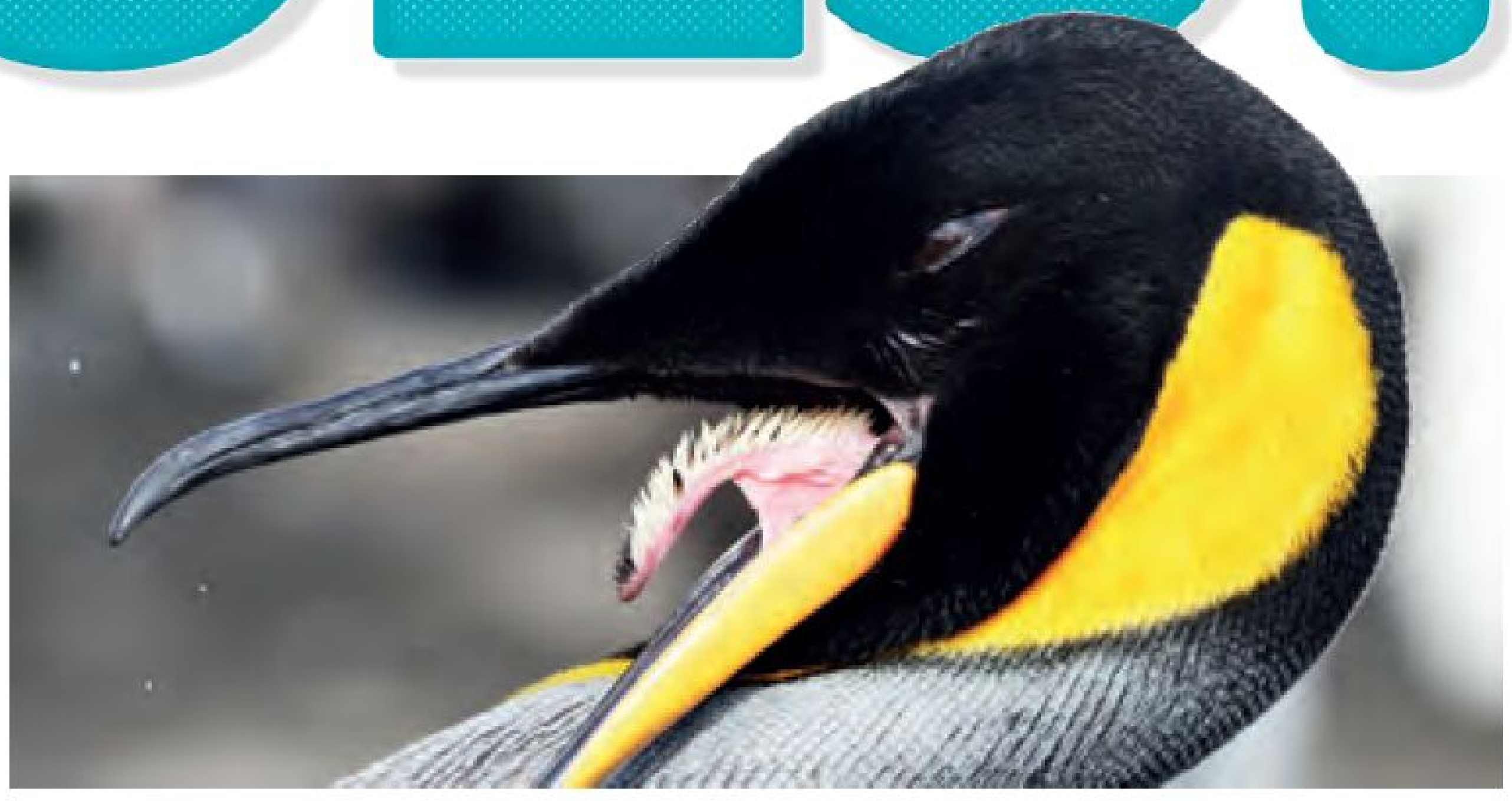
TOTALLY WACKY TONGUES!

Sun bears have super-long tongues that can measure between 20cm and 25cm! They use their tongue to extract honey from beehives. Very brave!

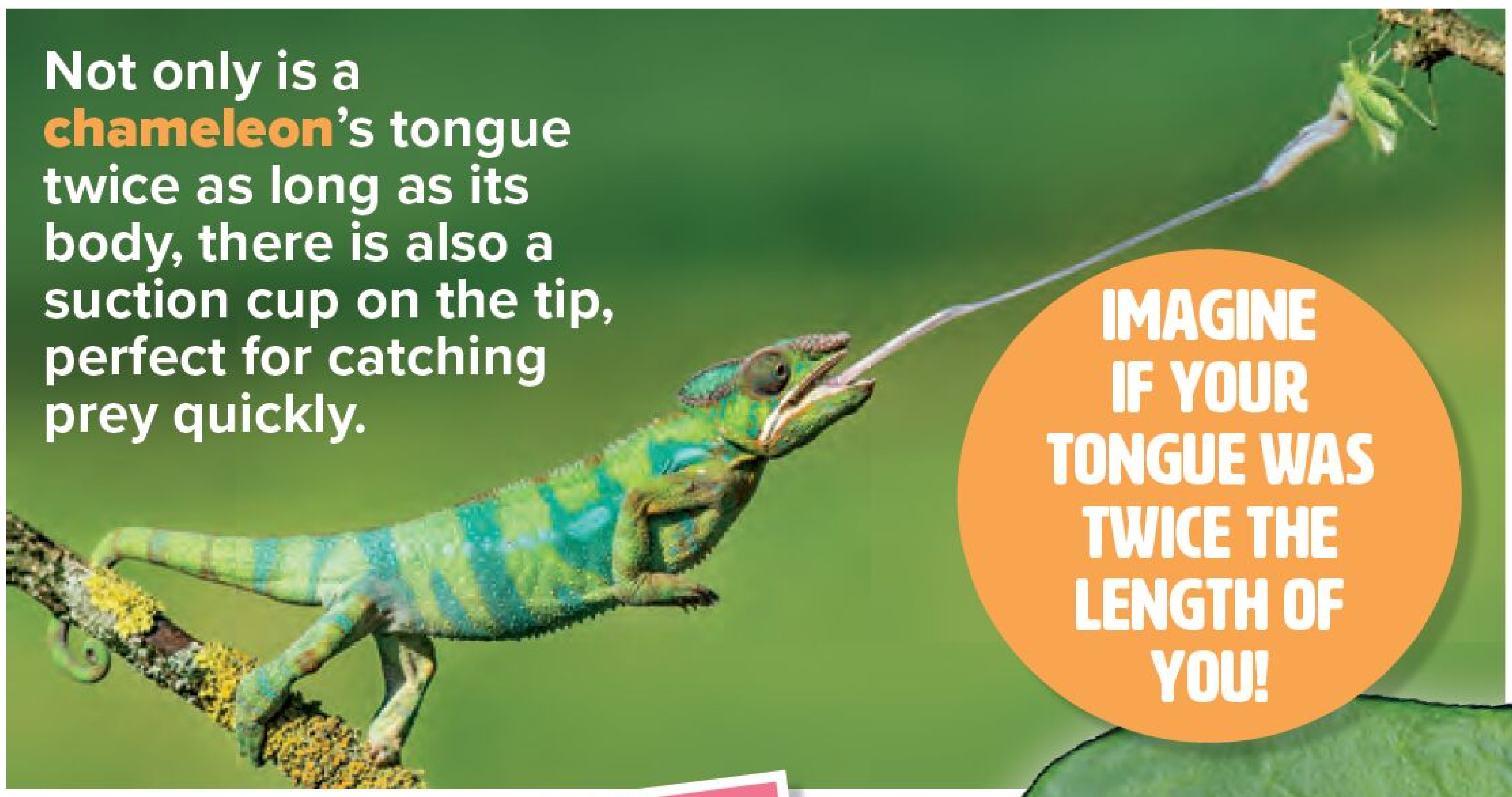


WHO KNEW TONGUES WERE SO WEIRD?!

Penguins' tongues are bristly like a brush, making it easy to wrap around and trap slippery fish.



Not only is a **chameleon**'s tongue twice as long as its body, there is also a suction cup on the tip, perfect for catching prey quickly.



IMAGINE IF YOUR TONGUE WAS TWICE THE LENGTH OF YOU!

Instead of being a part of their mouth, **pangolins**' tongues are attached to their pelvis, but they still reach right out of their mouths to snatch up food.

SLURP!

Frogs have super-strong and super-speedy tongues. Their tongue shoots in and out to catch prey faster than the human eye can blink!

Anteaters have no teeth, but they do have 60cm tongues perfect for scooping up 30,000 ants a day!

FROG – GUIRO

This type of percussion instrument dates back to the Aztecs, and you may find it in your school music room!

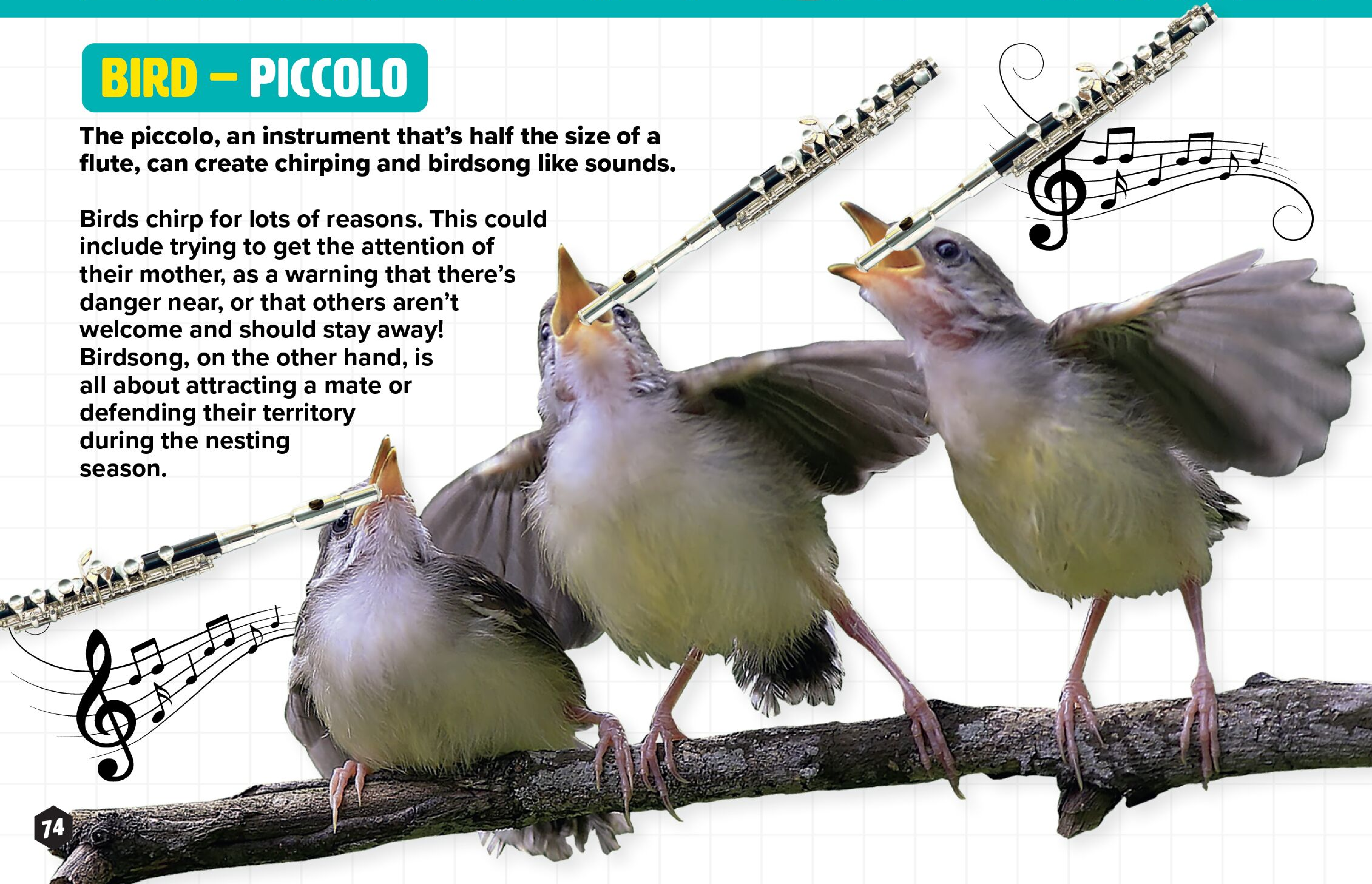
These days, it can be made of wood, plastic, metal, or fibreglass, compared to when it was originally crafted out of hollowed gourds (a large fruit with a hard skin). When played a certain way, it can sound like a ribbiting frog. It's thought that amphibians ribbit as a way of attracting a mate and letting them know where the best place to lay their eggs may be.

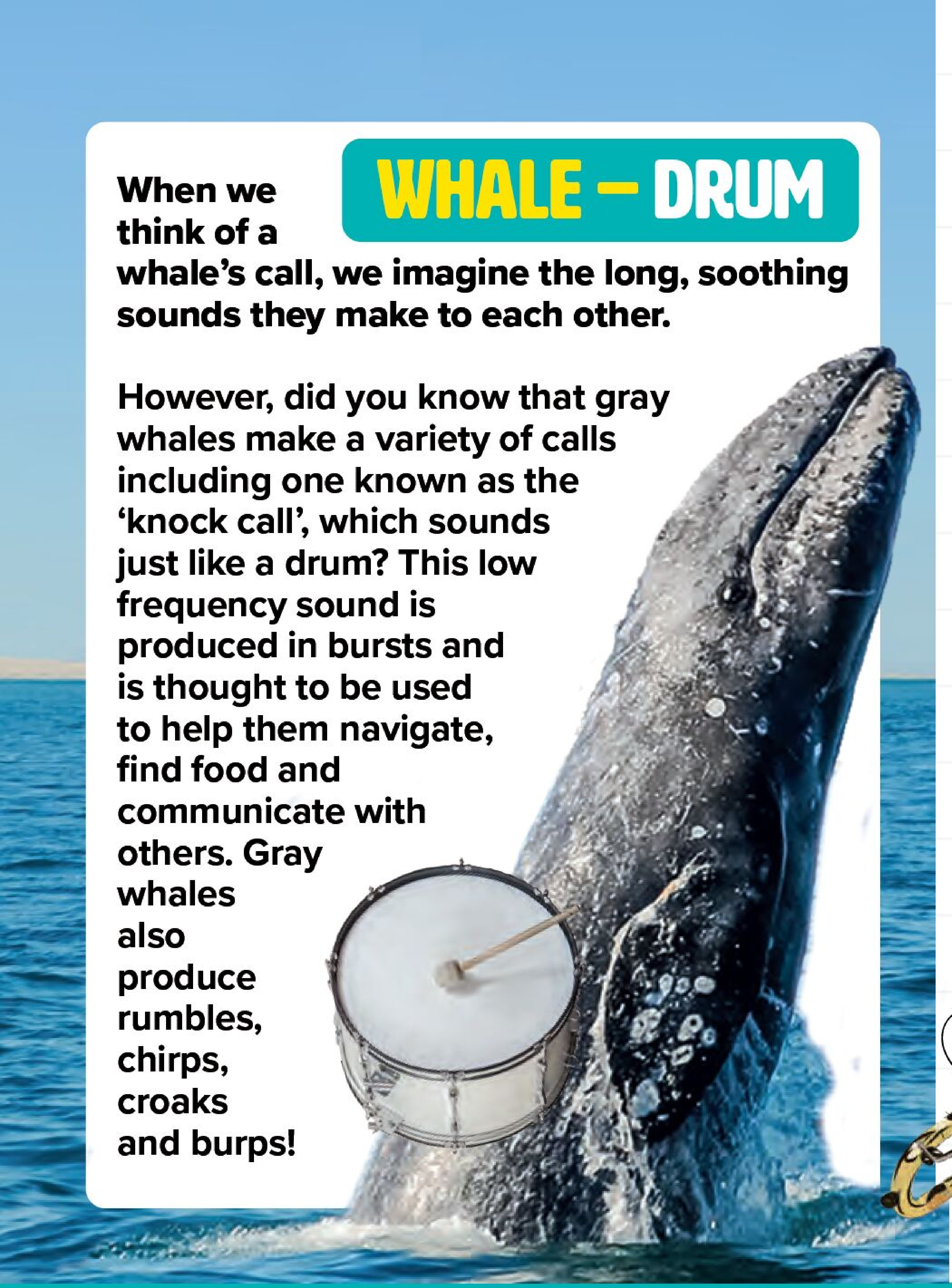
BATTLE OF THE

BIRD – PICCOLO

The piccolo, an instrument that's half the size of a flute, can create chirping and birdsong like sounds.

Birds chirp for lots of reasons. This could include trying to get the attention of their mother, as a warning that there's danger near, or that others aren't welcome and should stay away! Birdsong, on the other hand, is all about attracting a mate or defending their territory during the nesting season.

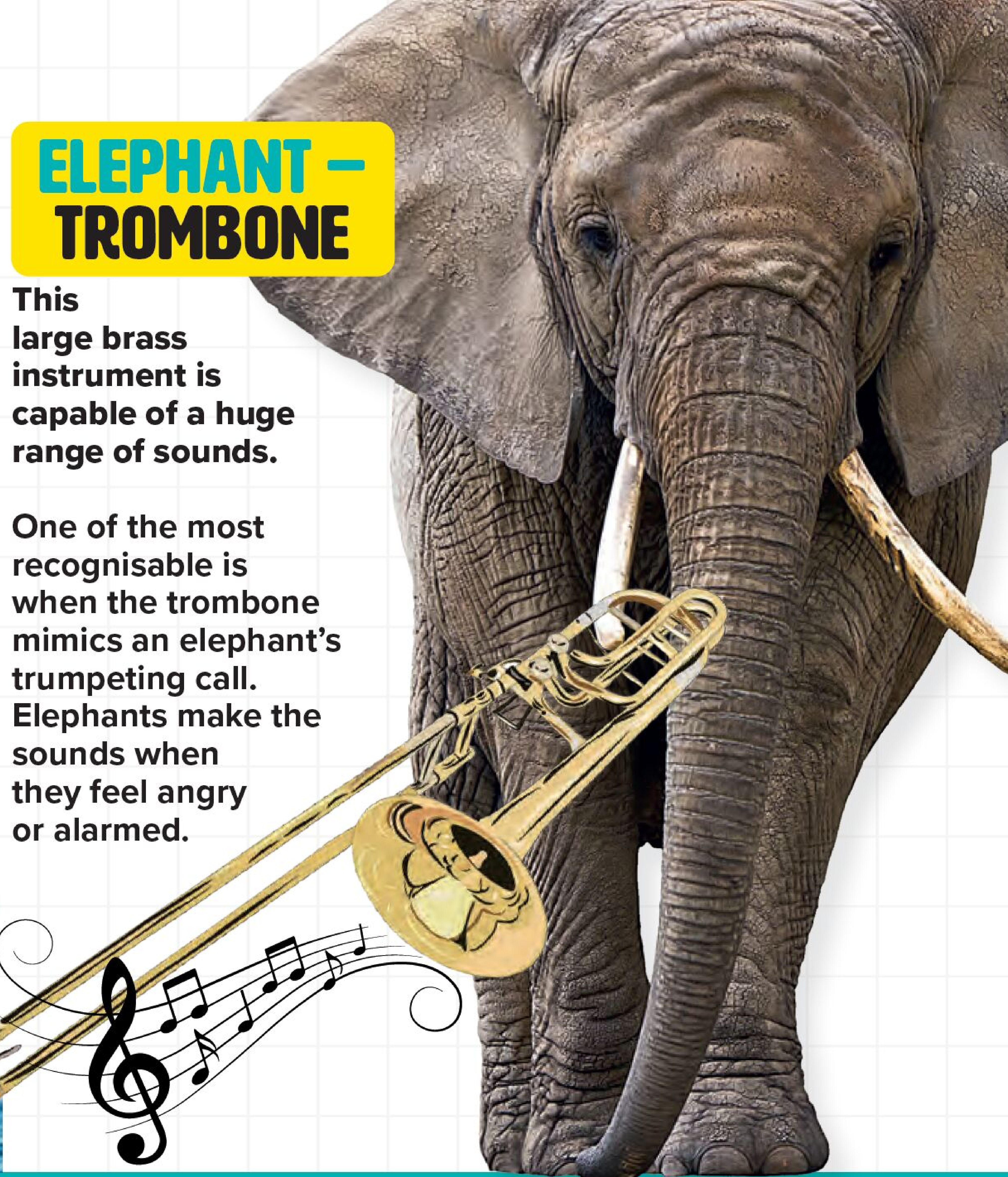




WHALE – DRUM

When we think of a whale's call, we imagine the long, soothing sounds they make to each other.

However, did you know that gray whales make a variety of calls including one known as the 'knock call', which sounds just like a drum? This low frequency sound is produced in bursts and is thought to be used to help them navigate, find food and communicate with others. Gray whales also produce rumbles, chirps, croaks and burps!



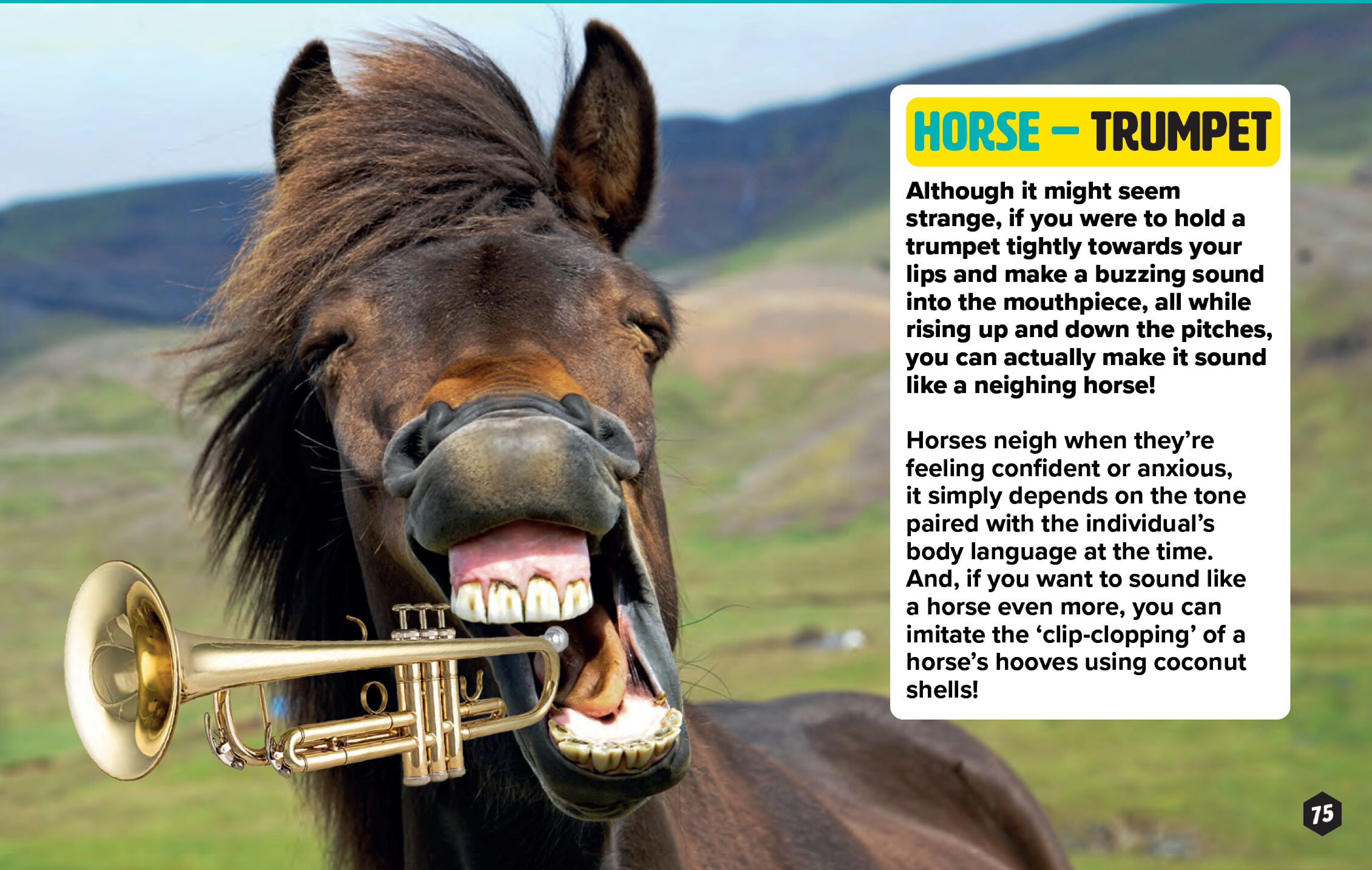
ELEPHANT – TROMBONE

This large brass instrument is capable of a huge range of sounds.

One of the most recognisable is when the trombone mimics an elephant's trumpeting call. Elephants make the sounds when they feel angry or alarmed.

BANDS!

HAVE YOU HEARD OF **ZOOMUSICOLOGY**? THIS SUPER-COOL WORD DESCRIBES THE STUDY OF ANY MUSICAL SOUNDS THAT ANIMALS MAKE TO COMMUNICATE WITH ONE ANOTHER. LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT SOME OF THE MOST MUSICAL ANIMALS AROUND!



HORSE – TRUMPET

Although it might seem strange, if you were to hold a trumpet tightly towards your lips and make a buzzing sound into the mouthpiece, all while rising up and down the pitches, you can actually make it sound like a neighing horse!

Horses neigh when they're feeling confident or anxious, it simply depends on the tone paired with the individual's body language at the time. And, if you want to sound like a horse even more, you can imitate the 'clip-clopping' of a horse's hooves using coconut shells!

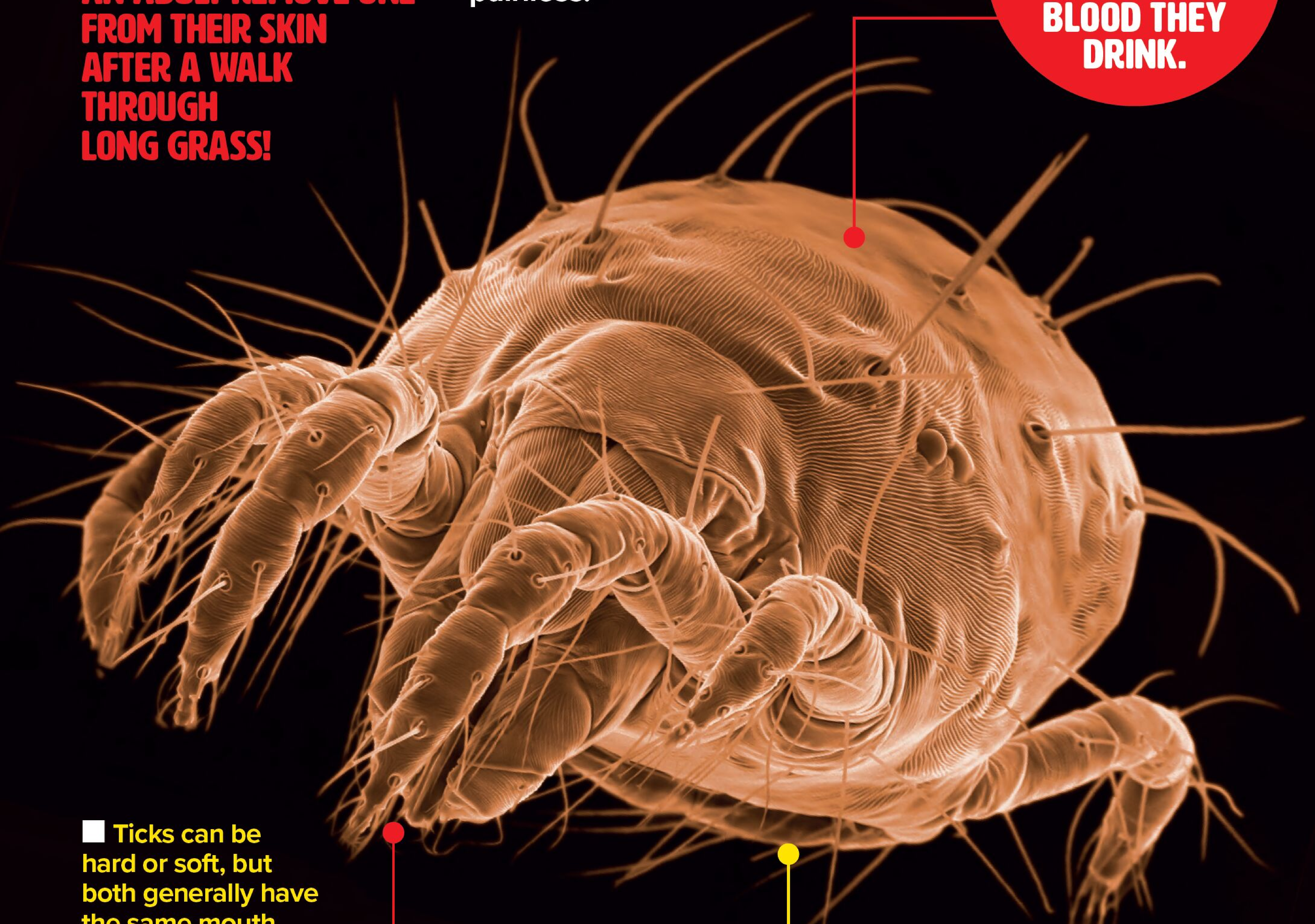
Under the MICROSCOPE

TERRIFYING TICKS!

- Ticks live all over the world, and there are over 850 species. However, most species have a lot in common.

SAY HELLO TO THE HUMBLE TICK – IF YOU HAVE A DOG OR A CAT, YOU'VE PROBABLY SEEN AN ADULT REMOVE ONE FROM THEIR SKIN AFTER A WALK THROUGH LONG GRASS!

- Ticks feed on blood! They attach to their host and their bodies fill with blood and become bigger. Once they're full, they eventually fall off. But don't worry - a bite is painless!



THE BODY, OR IDIOSOMA, EXPANDS TO STORE THE BLOOD THEY DRINK.

- Ticks can be hard or soft, but both generally have the same mouth parts. There are two mouth palps towards the front, two chelicerae (che-li-se-ray) that pierce the host's skin and one hypostome, which is like a needle that excretes saliva and takes in the blood!

ADULT TICKS HAVE EIGHT LEGS COVERED IN TINY HAIRS WITH A CLAW AT THE END.

- These tiny creatures are a part of the arachnid family and have three main body segments: head, thorax and the abdomen.

SMALL, FLAT BODY FOR ATTACHING TO THEIR HOST WITH EASE.

WHY?

...DO GOATS FAINT?

FAINTING GOAT FACT FILE

DIET: HERBIVORES

POPULATION: THERE ARE ONLY 10,000 LEFT IN THE WORLD

LIFESPAN: 12-15 YEARS

THEY'RE SCAREDY CATS

Not all goats faint, only the Tennessee fainting goat does. It has a genetic mutation that affects its muscles! And really, they don't actually faint, despite the name. When they get a fright, it causes their muscles to completely freeze up and they fall over. They don't pass out, they just can't move until it wears off. Thankfully, it only lasts about 20 seconds!

YOU'VE GOAT TO BE KIDDING?!

It's not only being startled that causes fainting. It happens when they're excited too. We bet this is really annoying when they're running to get food or trying to climb a fence. It starts happening to them after they're 18 days old, however, some older goats have learnt how to not fall over when they stiffen up and stay standing.

HUMANS DO IT TOO

Some humans and mice have a similar condition. It's caused by a disorder in the muscles that delays relaxation. Humans will tense up and relax, but the fainting goat just has to wait until it wears off. It's a good thing they're farm animals, as it'd make them very vulnerable in the wild!

WHAT DO YOU CALL A GOAT DRESSED AS A CLOWN?
A SILLY BILLY!

DID YOU KNOW?

FAINTING GOATS ARE REALLY MUSCLY! THEY'RE WIDER AND HEAVIER THAN NORMAL GOATS.

SWAMP MONSTERS!

WET, DARK AND MURKY SWAMPS ARE HOME TO ALL SORTS OF SCARY CREATURES. HERE ARE A FEW OF THE CREEPIEST AND THE CUTEST!

WATER STRIDERS

Water striders live on the surface of swamp water. Even though they should sink through the surface, tiny little hairs on their legs keep them skating along the surface. If that's not eerie enough, water striders eat each other when they run out of prey — yikes!

I AM OTTER-LY ADORABLE!

RIVER OTTERS

River otters are probably the cutest thing you'd find in a swamp. They're underwater gymnasts and love to have fun. They can be found sliding around on their bellies and doing acrobatics underwater. Perhaps swamps aren't so scary after all!

SSSNEAKY SSSNAKES...

COPPERHEAD SNAKES

Copperhead snakes are known for being hide-and-seek pros! They hide unseen in swampy regions, but they react to any threats by sinking their large fangs into anything nearby.

SNAPPING TURTLES

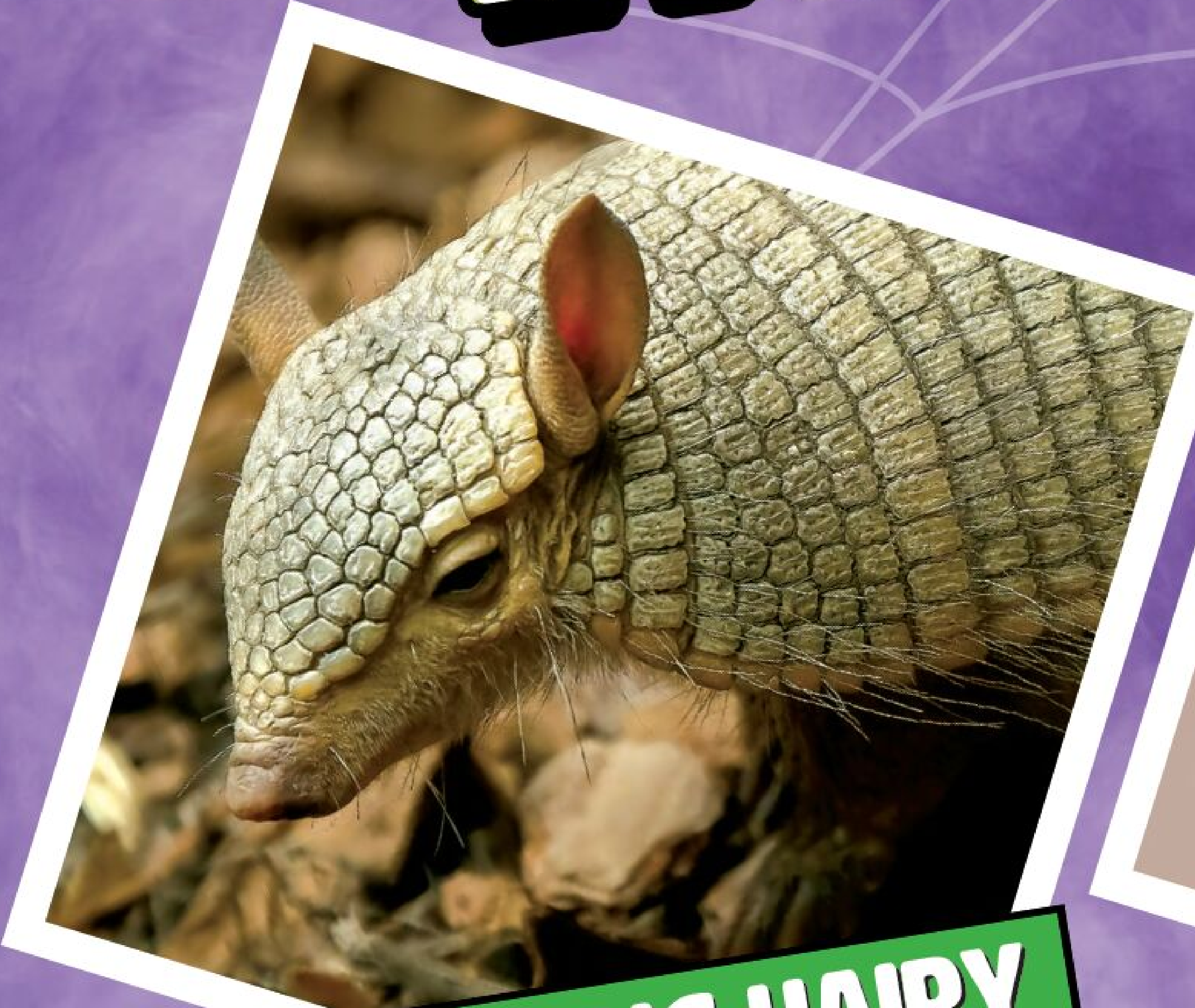
Snapping turtles look like they belong with the dinosaurs! These knobbly-looking creatures bury themselves deep in the swamp and wait for prey to swim by. When it does, they waggle their little tongues to lure it closer before, SNAP!

ALLIGATORS

American alligators are probably the most prolific predators slithering around swamps. They can reach 4.5 metres in length with large webbed feet and long, strong tails which allow them to plunge quickly through water to ambush their prey.

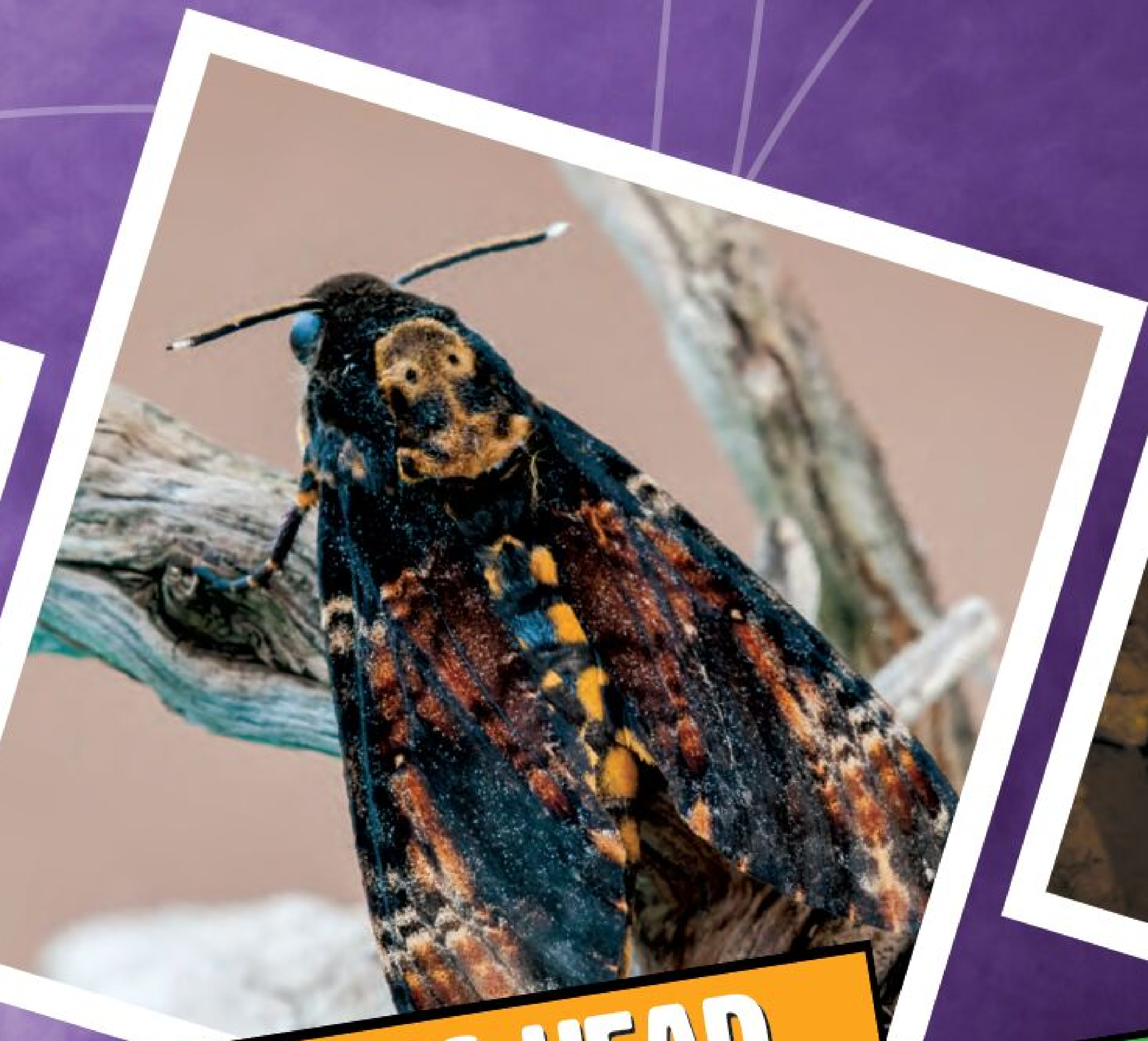
MONSTER MAKER

USE THE CREEPY CREATURE CREATOR TO MAKE YOUR OWN SPOOKY ANIMAL, THEN DRAW WHAT THEY'D LOOK LIKE IN THE BOX AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE. HERE ARE SOME SCARY CREATURES FOR INSPIRATION!



SCREAMING HAIRY ARMADILLO

Native to South America's Monte Desert, these armadillos produce a loud squeal when they feel threatened.



DEATH'S-HEAD HAWK-MOTH

Thought to be a bad omen if seen, this insect is named so gruesomely because of the skull-like marking found on the back of its head.

GHOST BAT

These winged Australian mammals have been named ghost bats because their fur can look almost white, just like a ghost!

CREATURE CREATOR

PICK ONE WORD FROM EACH SECTION AND PUT THEM TOGETHER

GOOD AT...

☐ SCREAMING

☐ LEAPING

☐ FLYING

☐ OOZING

☐ STINKING

DESCRIPTION

☐ HAIRY

☐ SCALY

☐ BONELESS

☐ SPIKY

☐ SLIMY

ANIMAL

☐ SPIDER

☐ BAT

☐ SNAKE

☐ BEAR

☐ SCORPION

DRAW YOUR OWN SPOOKY ANIMAL HERE!

GROSS GRUB!

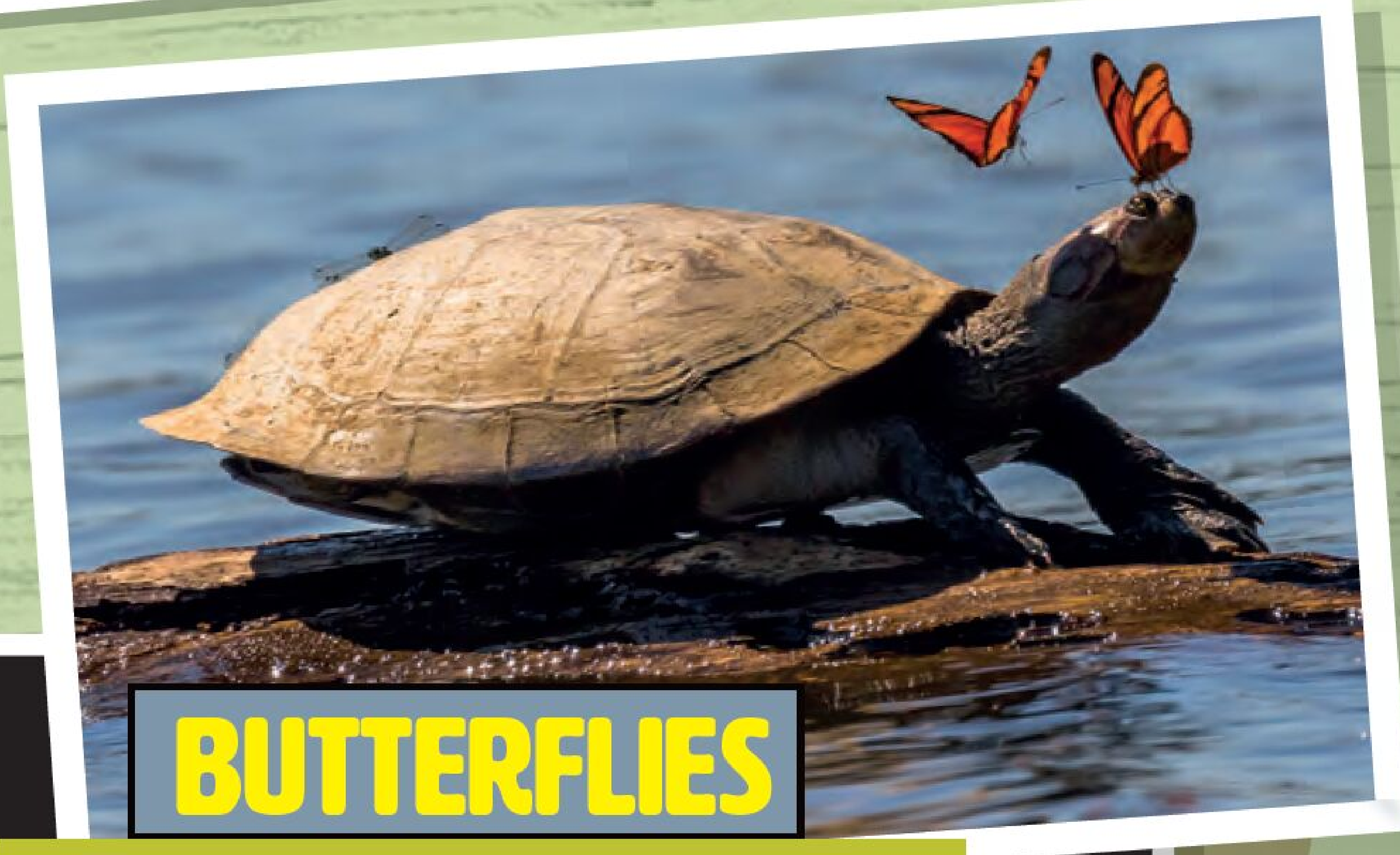
DISCOVER THE ANIMAL KINGDOM'S MOST DISGUSTING DINNERS!

SUCH A SUPER POOPER!

RABBITS

DISGUSTING DISH: POOP

● Cute, they may be, but bunnies have a not-so-adorable appetite for their own poop! Rabbits make two types of poop: fecal pellets and cecotropes. Unlike fecal pellets, cecotropes are packed with protein and vitamins which rabbits eat directly from their bottom. Just don't let this put you off your Coco Pops...



BUTTERFLIES

DISGUSTING DISH: TEARS

● Amazonian butterflies love to dine on turtle tears! This sounds super-gross, but it actually benefits both creatures – the tears are an excellent source of sodium and minerals for the butterfly and the turtle gets a much-needed eye bath. Win-win!

CATS

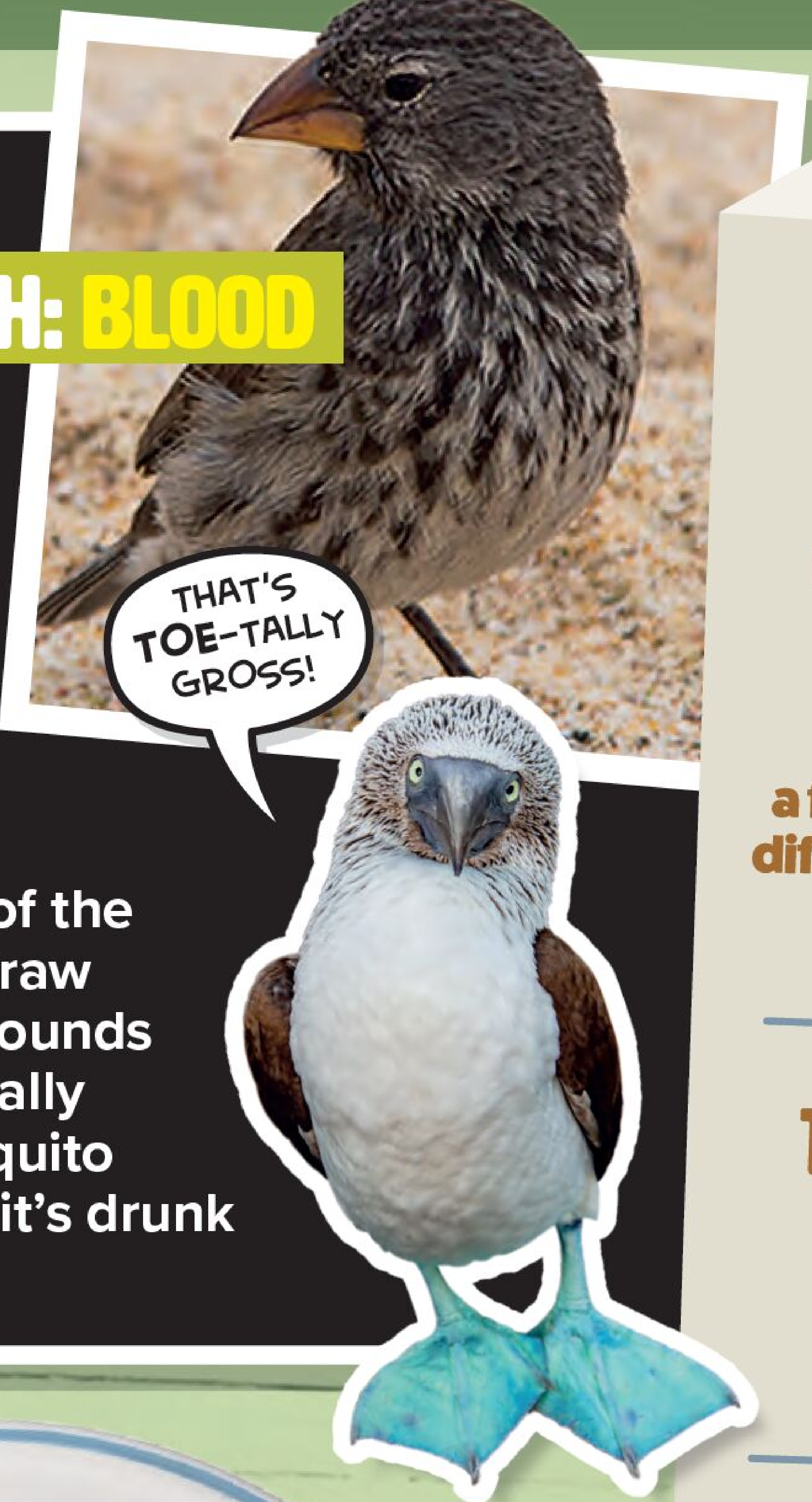
DISGUSTING DISH: EARWAX

● Earwax smells and tastes delicious to cats! They like nothing better than rummaging around in their own ears for golden nuggets to snack on.

VAMPIRE FINCHES

DISGUSTING DISH: BLOOD

● As the name suggests, these little birds from the Galapagos Islands are not quite as sweet and innocent as they look… they use their sharp beaks to peck through the skin of the blue-footed booby to draw and drink its blood! It sounds gruesome, but it's actually pretty similar to a mosquito biting a human – once it's drunk its fill, it'll go away.



REVOLTING RESTAURANT

Welcome to Revolting Restaurant, a five-star dining experience with a disgusting difference! Choose one ghastly grub from each course to build your own foul feast!

STARTER

TURTLE TEAR SOUP ☑

CRUSTY EARWAX CHEESE MELTS ☑

MAIN

VOMIT BURGER with REGURGITATED FISH ☑

ROAST CAECILIAN with EXTRA-CRISPY SKIN ☑

DESSERT

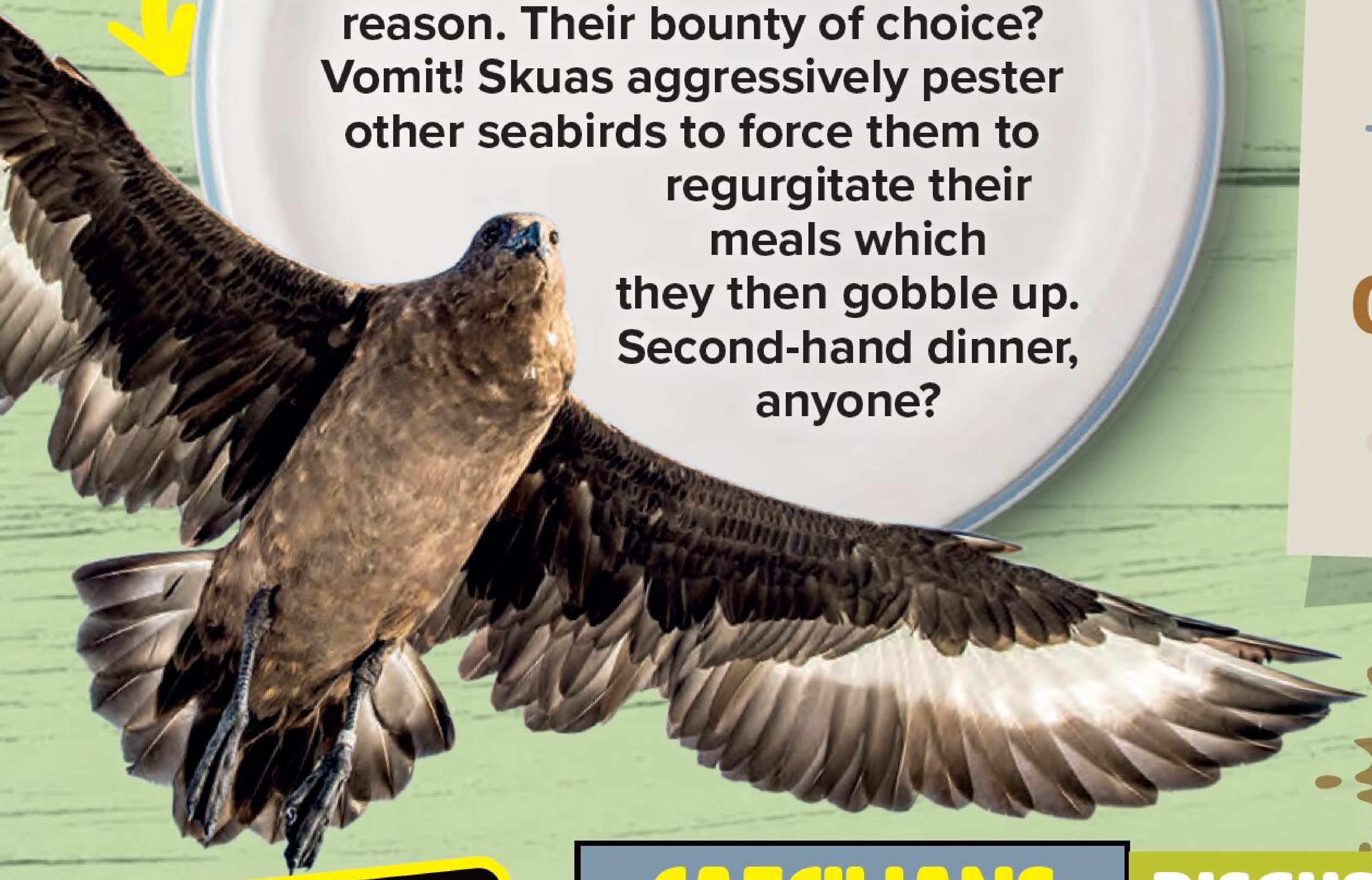
CHOCOLATE-COATED BUNNY DROPPINGS ☑

BLOOD-JAM TRIFLE AND CUSTARD ☑

SKUA BIRDS

DISGUSTING DISH: VOMIT

● These seabirds are also known as 'pirate birds', and for good reason. Their bounty of choice? Vomit! Skuas aggressively pester other seabirds to force them to regurgitate their meals which they then gobble up. Second-hand dinner, anyone?



WARNING! NOT FOR THE FAINT OF HEART!

CAECILIANS

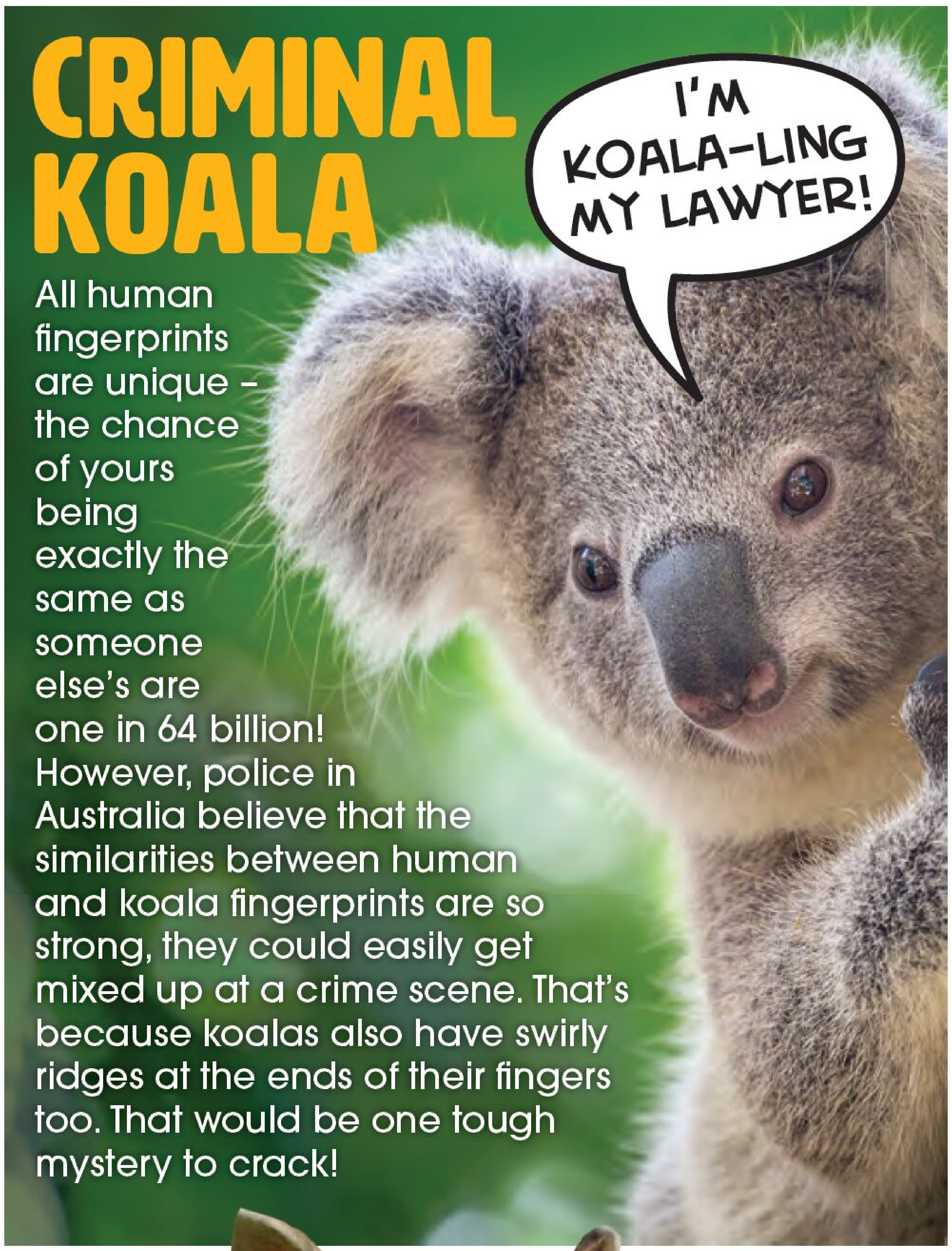
DISGUSTING DISH: SKIN

● Caecilians may look like giant earthworms but they're actually legless amphibians. Gross-looking, yes, but that's not the worst of it… caecilian larvae eat the skin of their mother for nutrition. Thankfully, Mum's skin grows back every three days until the little critters are grown and ready to go it alone!

PLANET STRANGE

The weirdest facts from around the universe!

CRIMINAL KOALA



All human fingerprints are unique – the chance of yours being exactly the same as someone else's are one in 64 billion! However, police in Australia believe that the similarities between human and koala fingerprints are so strong, they could easily get mixed up at a crime scene. That's because koalas also have swirly ridges at the ends of their fingers too. That would be one tough mystery to crack!

AMAZING ARMOUR!

Scientists believe that an insect called the diabolical ironclad beetle could help us build stronger buildings — no, not from actually building skyscrapers from beetles, but from learning lessons from its amazing sturdy shell! The beetle, found in California, can withstand 39,000 times its own weight on top of it... that's one strong bug.

IT'S THE TOOTH!

Narwhals are sometimes referred to as the unicorns of the sea, but their impressive horn is actually a super-long tooth! It's usually only male narwhals that grow this tusk and they have been known to grow up to a whopping 3m long — that's a lot of brushing!

BUTT BREATHING

DON'T JUDGE ME.

Technically, the term is cloacal respiration, so not so much breathing as diffusing oxygen in, and CO_2 out. Turtles resort to this during their hibernation period when their oxygen levels are quite low. The oxygen diffused from the water running over them is enough to keep them going until spring!

I'M GOING FOR GOLD!

BRILLIANT BUNNIES!

You've heard of horses showjumping, but have you heard of bunnies showjumping? Yes, really! Looks like your pet Thumper might be heading for the next Olympics! Originating in Sweden, Kaninhop is a competition that involves bunnies hopping their way around a course filled with different heights of jumps. It's hopping mad!

TOP 5 FREAKIEST FROGS!

A COUNTDOWN TO THE MOST INTERESTING, COLOURFUL AND DANGEROUS FROGS IN THE WORLD.

5 AMAZON MILK FROG

■ When threatened, it releases a milky liquid that is poisonous to any attacker!

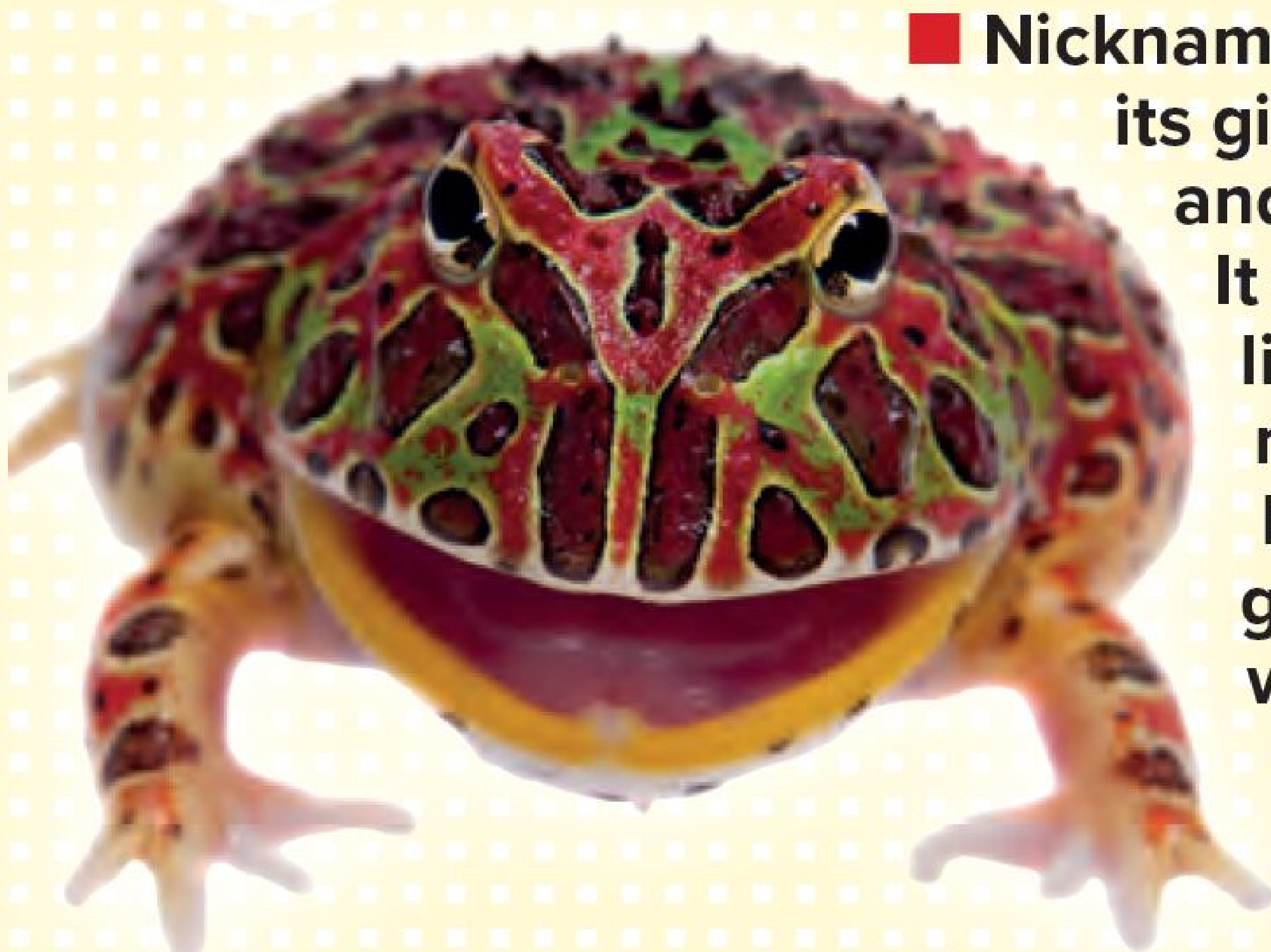
DID YOU KNOW? The reason some frogs are colourful is to send a warning that they're poisonous so predators won't eat them!

4 TOMATO FROG

■ Mess with this frog and it'll inflate and secrete a sticky white mucus that glues a predator's lips and eyes shut!

YOU SAY TOMATO… I SAY RIBBIT!

3 ORNATE HORNED FROG



■ Nicknamed **Pac-Man** for its ginormous mouth and round shape! It can swallow lizards, snakes, rodents and birds whole by grabbing them with its super-sticky, giant tongue!

2 BRUNO'S CASQUE-HEADED FROG

■ Twenty-five times more deadly than a Brazilian pit-viper snake! One of only two venomous frogs in the world, its head is covered in spines so it can head-butt venom into potential predators!

1 GOLDEN POISON DART FROG

■ It's the most poisonous frog on the planet, with skin so toxic it could kill two African bull elephants! Indigenous tribes in Colombia used the poison for the tips of their darts which is where the name came from.

DID YOU KNOW? Frogs don't drink water like we do. They absorb it through their skin.

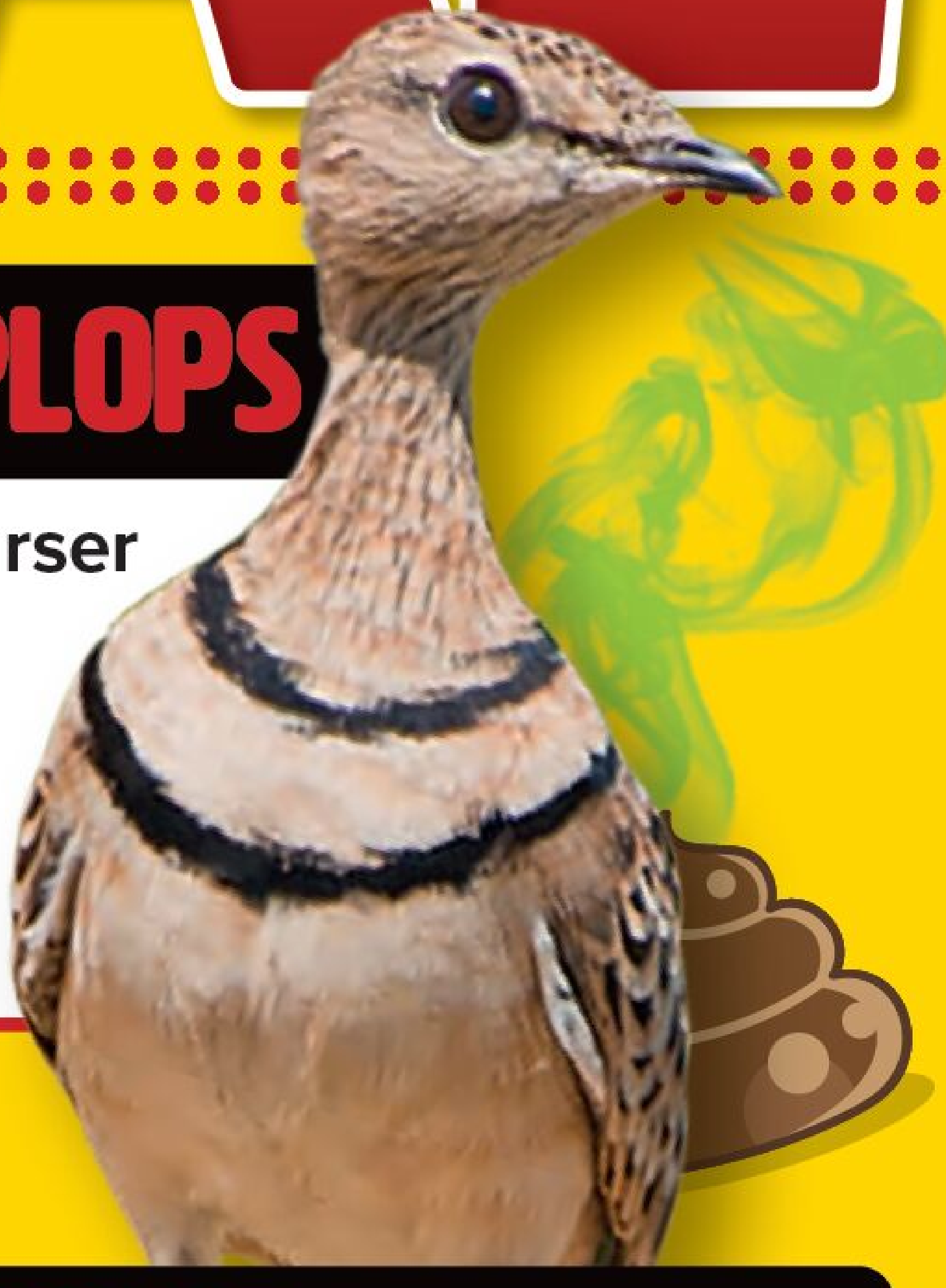
LET'S PLAY POISON DARTS!

THE SCOOP ON ANIMAL

YEAH, THIS IS OUR PATCH!

BADGER BATHROOM

- Families of badgers protect their territory by building a communal toilet so intruders will smell it and steer clear.



UNDERCOVER PLOPS

- The double-banded courser bird disguises its eggs by laying them in antelope waste, which is the same shape and colour, so no-one will see them.

EXPLOSIVE DOO-DOO

- Bat poop was used during World War II to make explosives! The potassium nitrate in it is the same stuff that makes fireworks.

PROJECTILE POO

- Humboldt penguins can project their poo over a metre! Sometimes it's pink too, depending on what they've eaten.

TRUE OR FALSE?

Opossums play dead and unleash a horrific smelling poop when a predator comes near!

Answer: True!

POOP UMBRELLA

- Leaf beetle larvae have come up with a genius way to hide from predators – they make an umbrella from their own droppings to shield them.

RAINING POO

- Skipper caterpillars can blast their poo pellets 1.5 metres into the air! They do it to trick wasps into chasing after it instead of attacking them.

TOTALLY *EW*-SOME FACTS!

POOP

I'M WARNING YOU, DON'T CROSS ME!

DO THE POO DANCE

- When sloths need to do a number two, they perform a dance and wiggle their butts to dig a hole in the ground.

FLUNG DUNG

- Wild howler monkeys throw their poo when they're bored or when they don't like someone.

POO-NADO

- When under attack, sperm whales blast out clouds of poo. It's rich in iron and nitrogen and helps fertilise the ocean.

DO YOU COME HERE OFTEN?

ROCKET POOS

- To attract mates, hippos blast their poop underwater by spinning their tail to launch them.

MULTI-TUSKING

- You can make paper out of elephant dung. They only digest about half their food so their poo is mostly made of fibre. One elephant can generate enough to make 100 pieces of paper a day.

GET A NOTE OF THIS!

JOKE ALERT!

WHY DO PEOPLE HATE POOP JOKES?

BECAUSE THEY STINK!

PUZZLING POOP!

POO! IT'S PRETTY IMPORTANT.

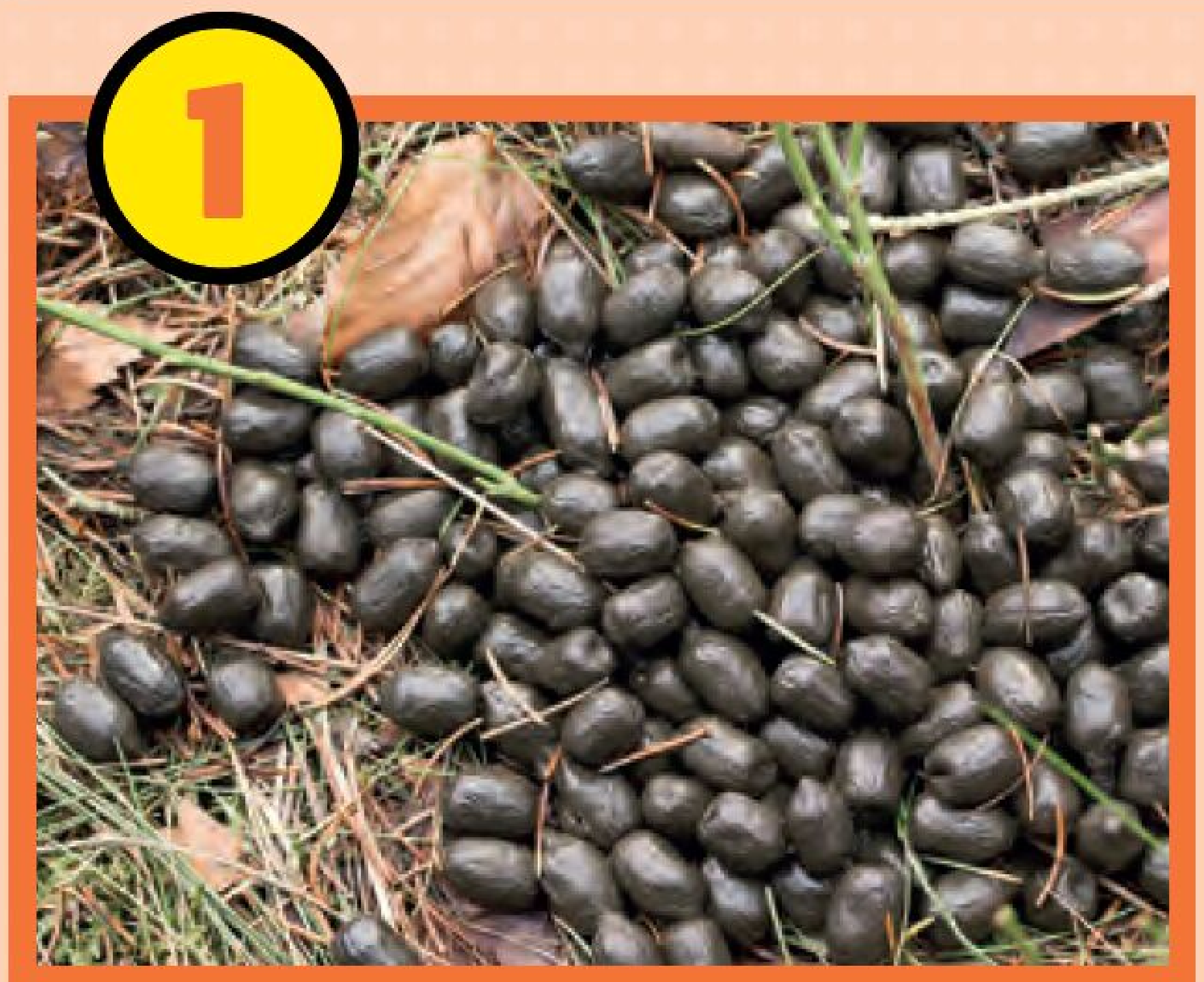
ANIMAL DROPPINGS CAN BE USED TO FIND OUT REALLY USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT A CREATURE, LIKE WHERE THEY LIVE AND WHAT THEY EAT. THERE'S EVEN A WORD FOR STUDYING DOO-DOO: SCATOLOGY!

SCATOLOGY:
THE STUDY OF FAECES

Can you match these animals to their poo?

WOMBAT, GIANT PANDA, DEER, PIGEON, GIRAFFE, LEOPARD.

1



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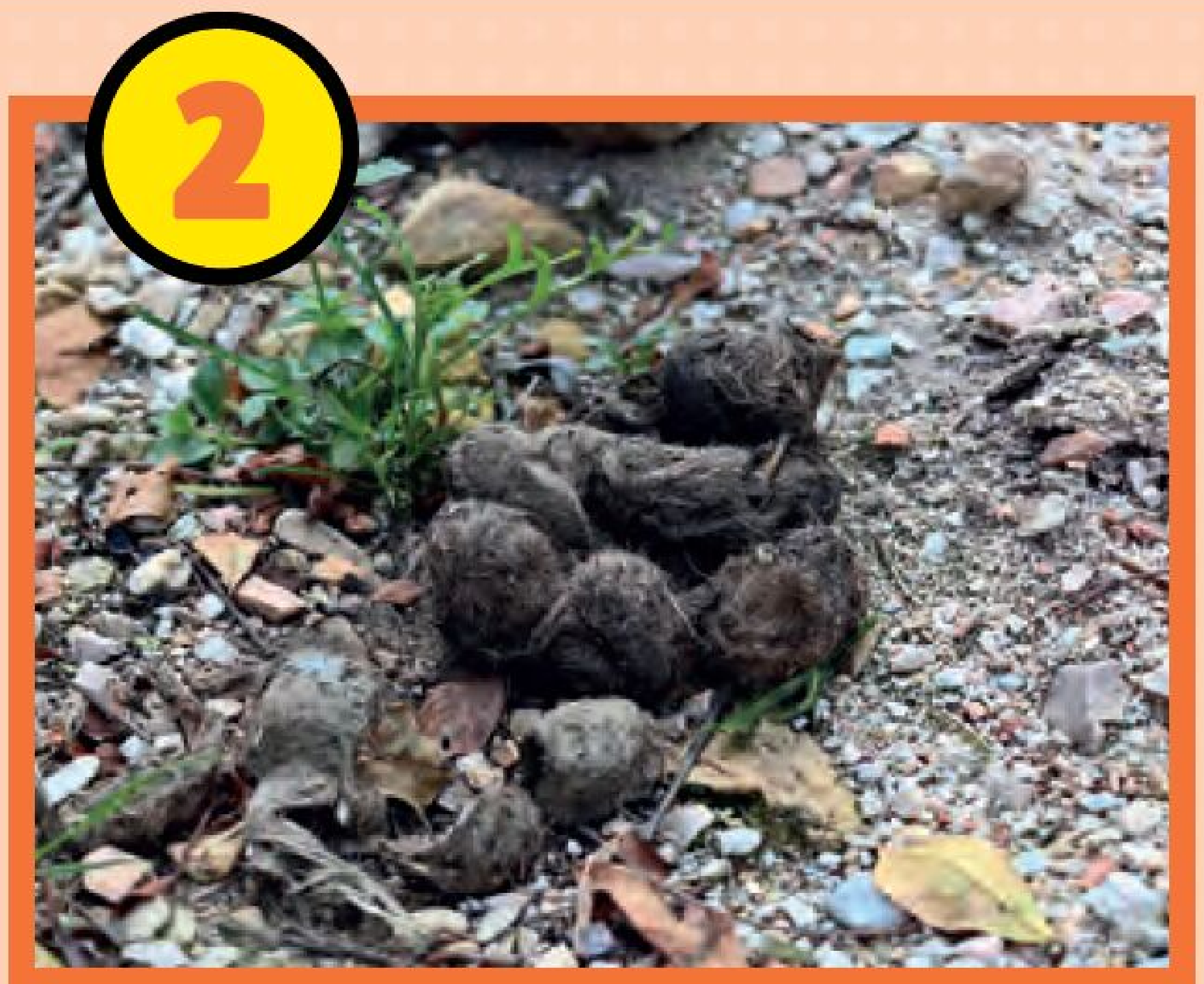

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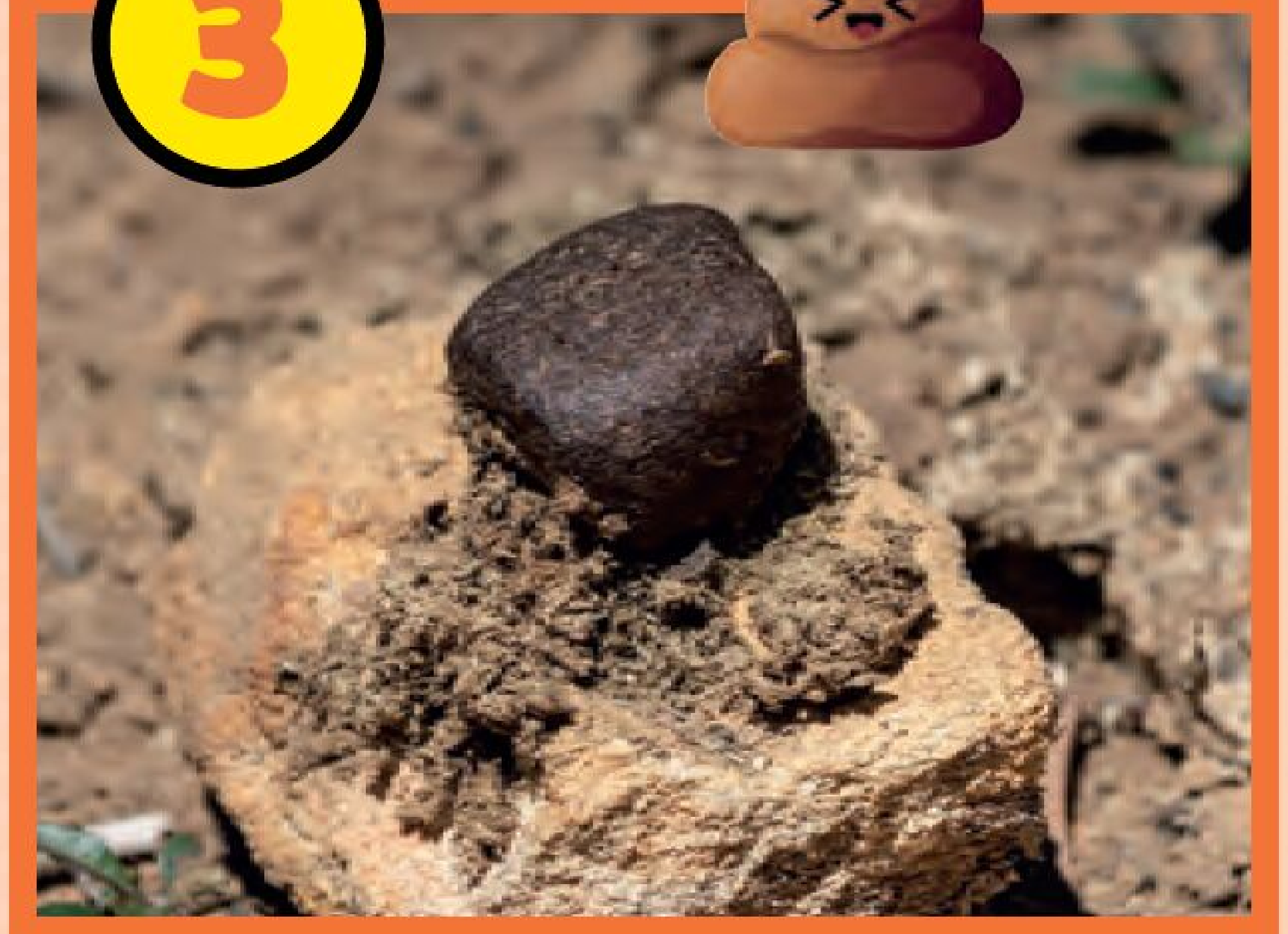
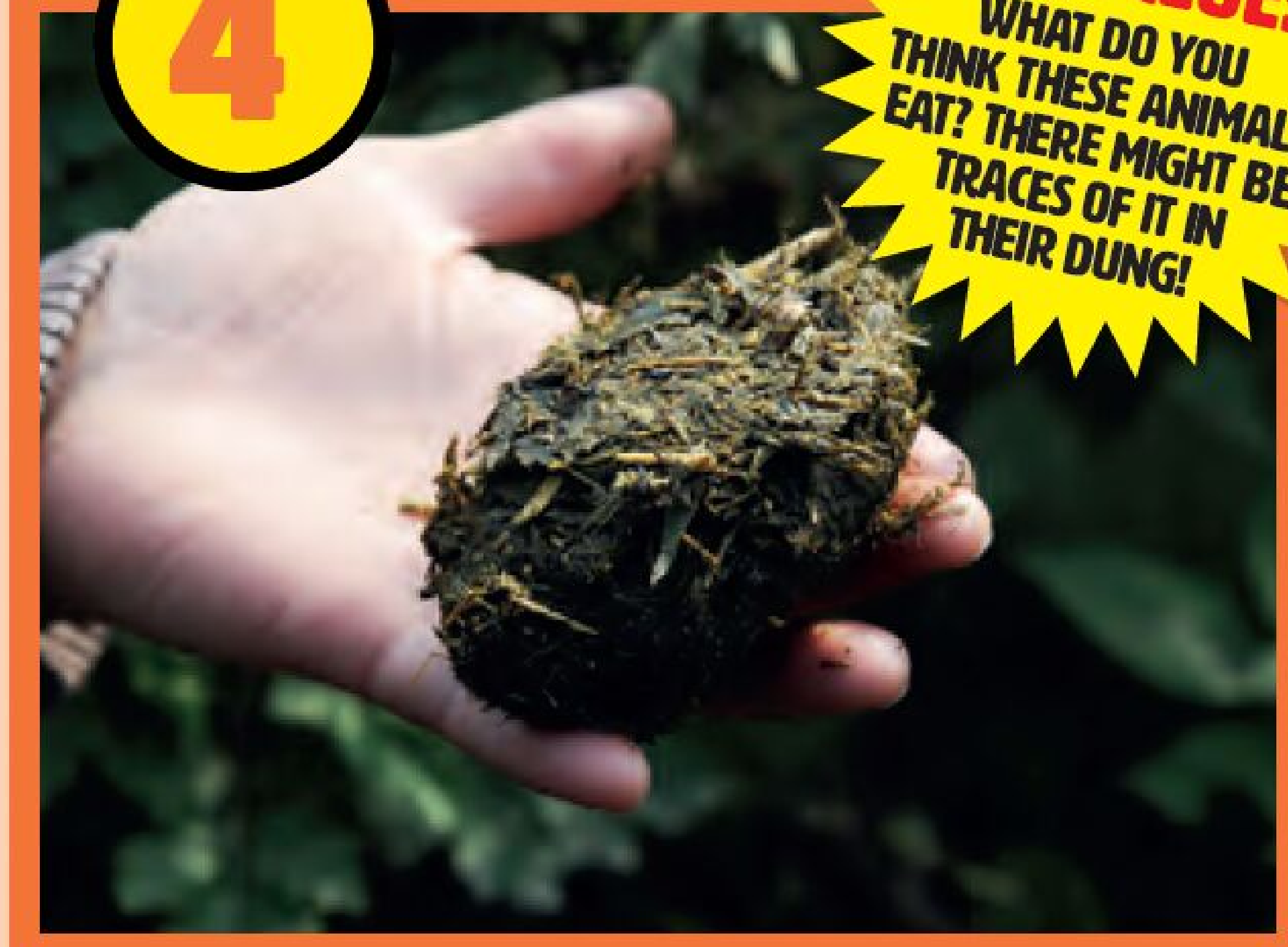


POO CLUE: WHAT DO YOU THINK THESE ANIMALS EAT? THERE MIGHT BE TRACES OF IT IN THEIR DUNG!

4



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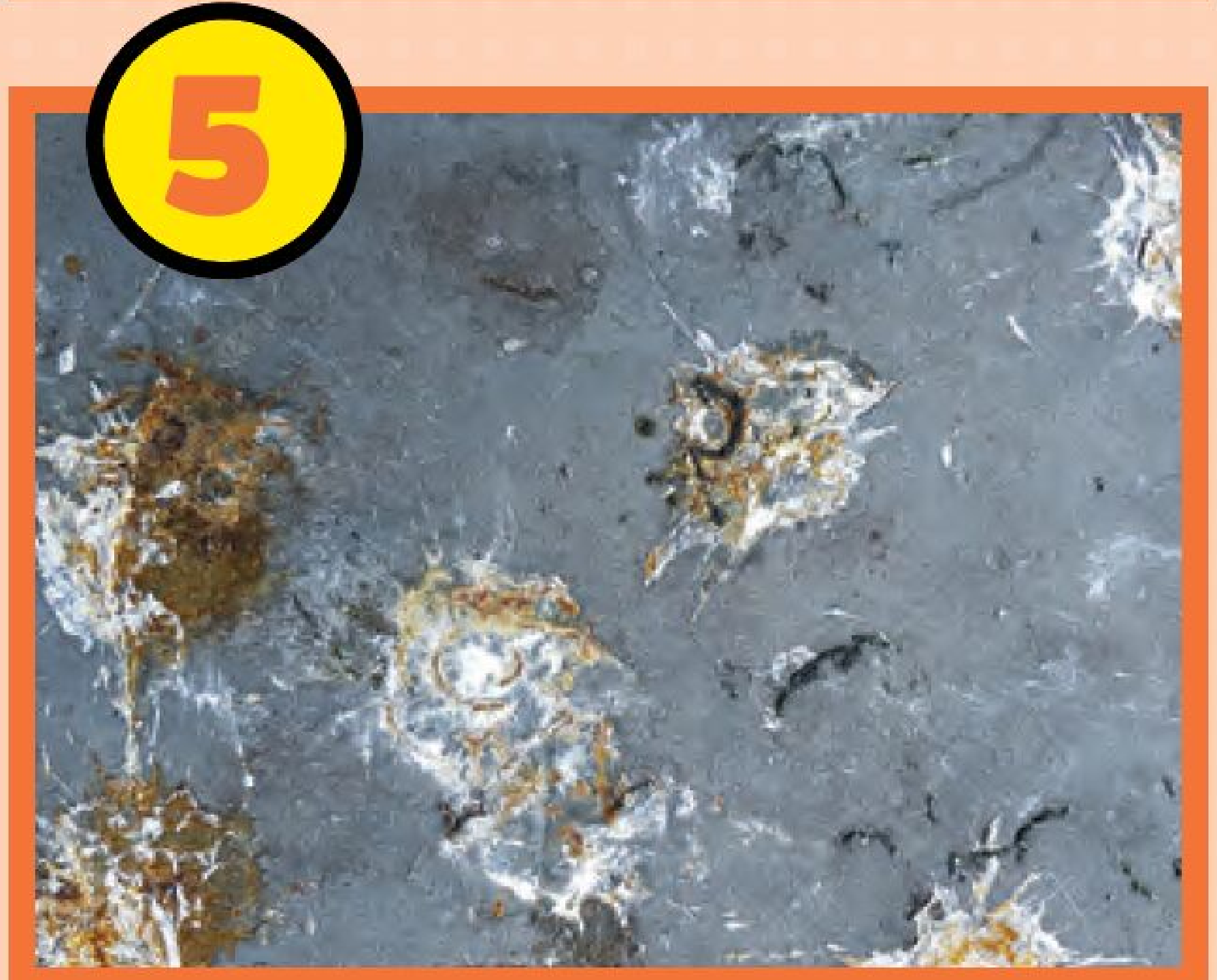

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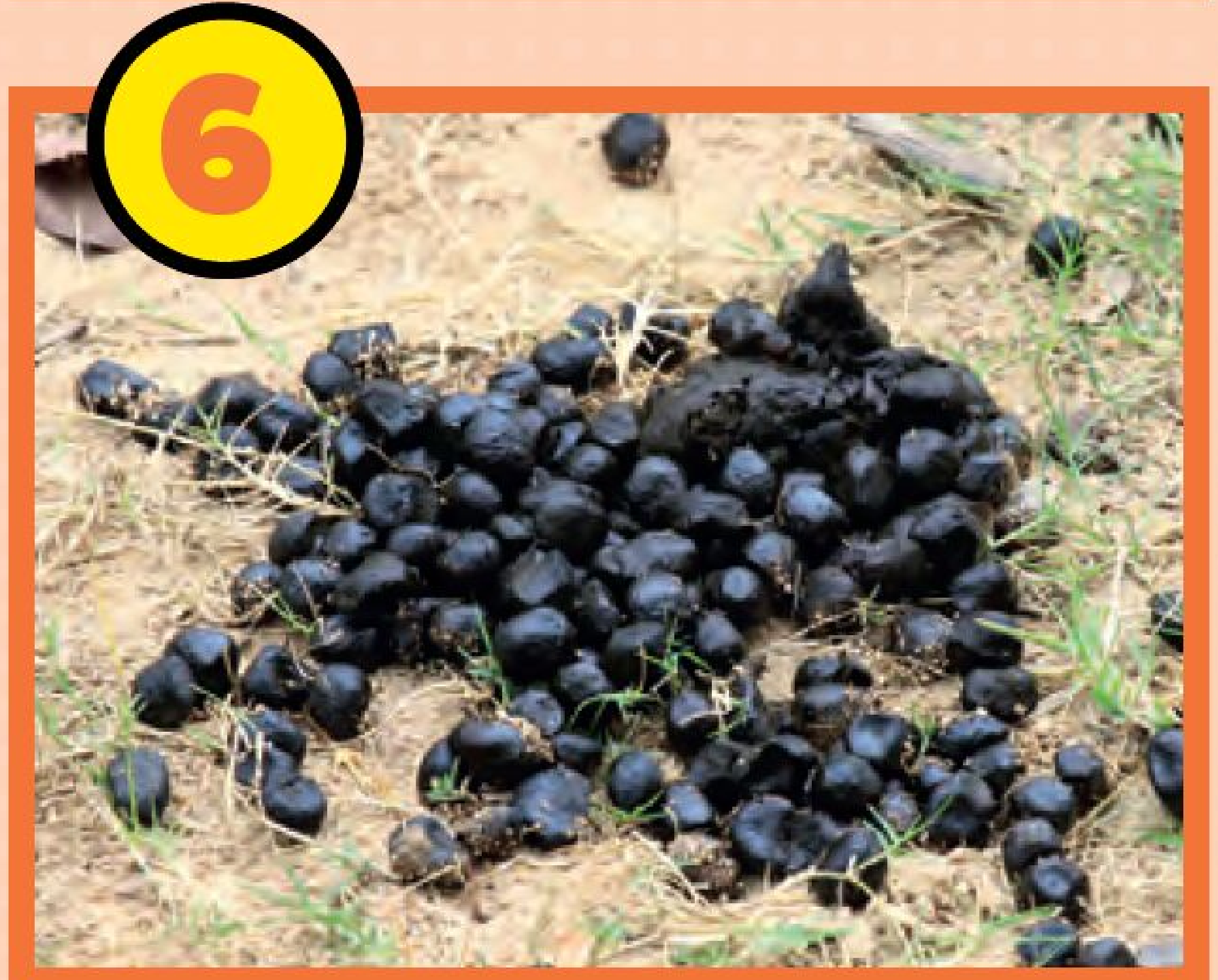


ANSWERS: 1. Deer 2. Leopard 3. Wombat 4. Giant panda 5. Pigeon 6. Giraffe

SCATOLOGY FACTOLOGY!

Some of the sandy beaches of Hawaii came from a parrotfish's butt! The coral they eat is pooped back out as sand.

NICE WEATHER FOR SUNBATHING!

Birds of prey poop before they take off so they can fly high!

5, 4, 3, 2, 1... BLAST OFF!

CAPYBARAS HAVE TWO TYPES OF POO: A NORMAL ONE, AND ONE FULL OF NUTRIENTS TO CONSUME LATER.

TALK ABOUT RECYCLING!

WELCOME TO THE WILD WEB!

SPIDERS AREN'T AS SCARY AS YOU'D THINK!

WHAT HAS EIGHT LEGS AND LOTS OF REASONS TO BE LOVED?

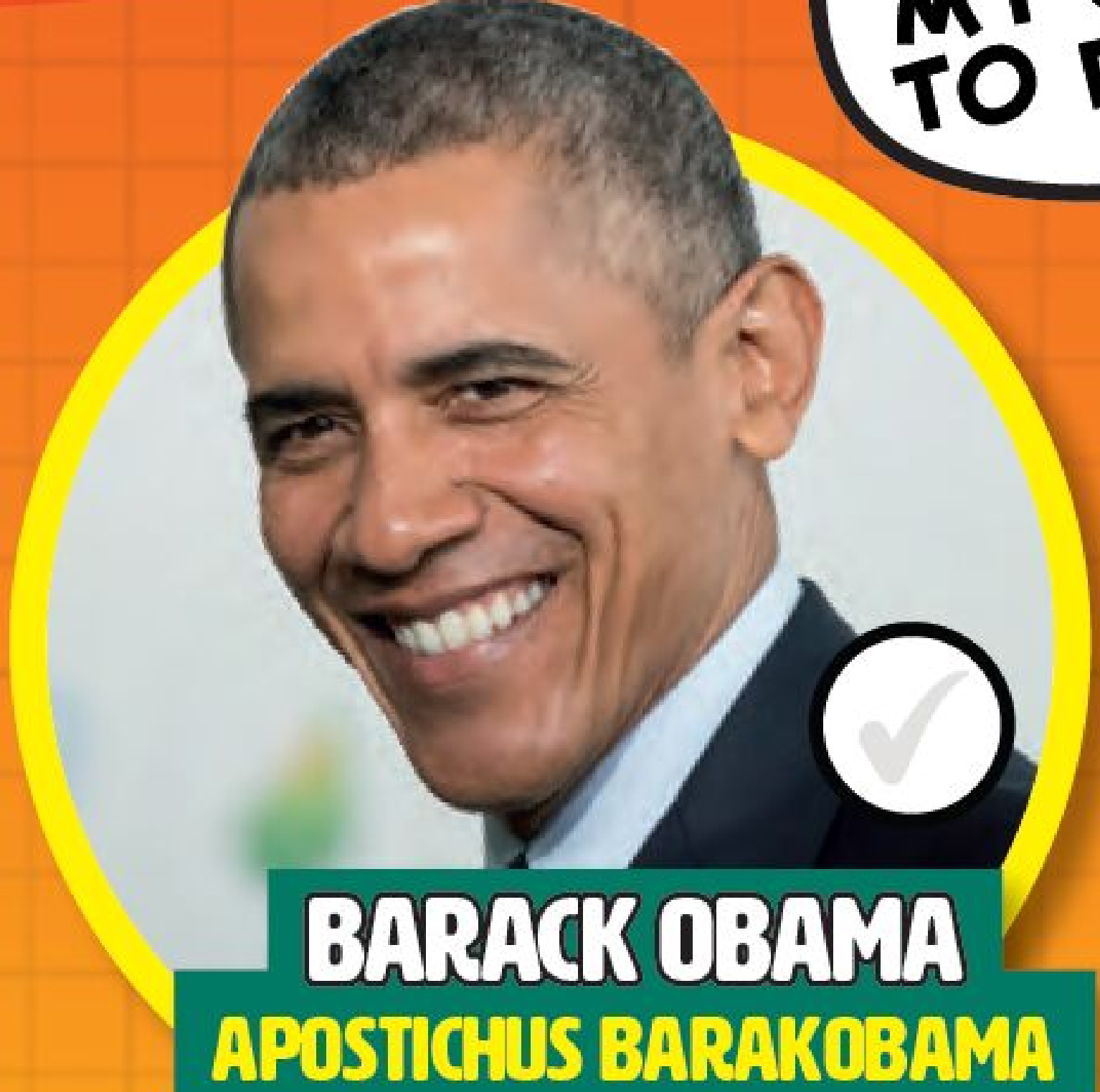
I-SPY-DER CELEBRITY!

Tick off which of these celeb-inspired spiders you think are real. Can you get them all without falling for any fakes?

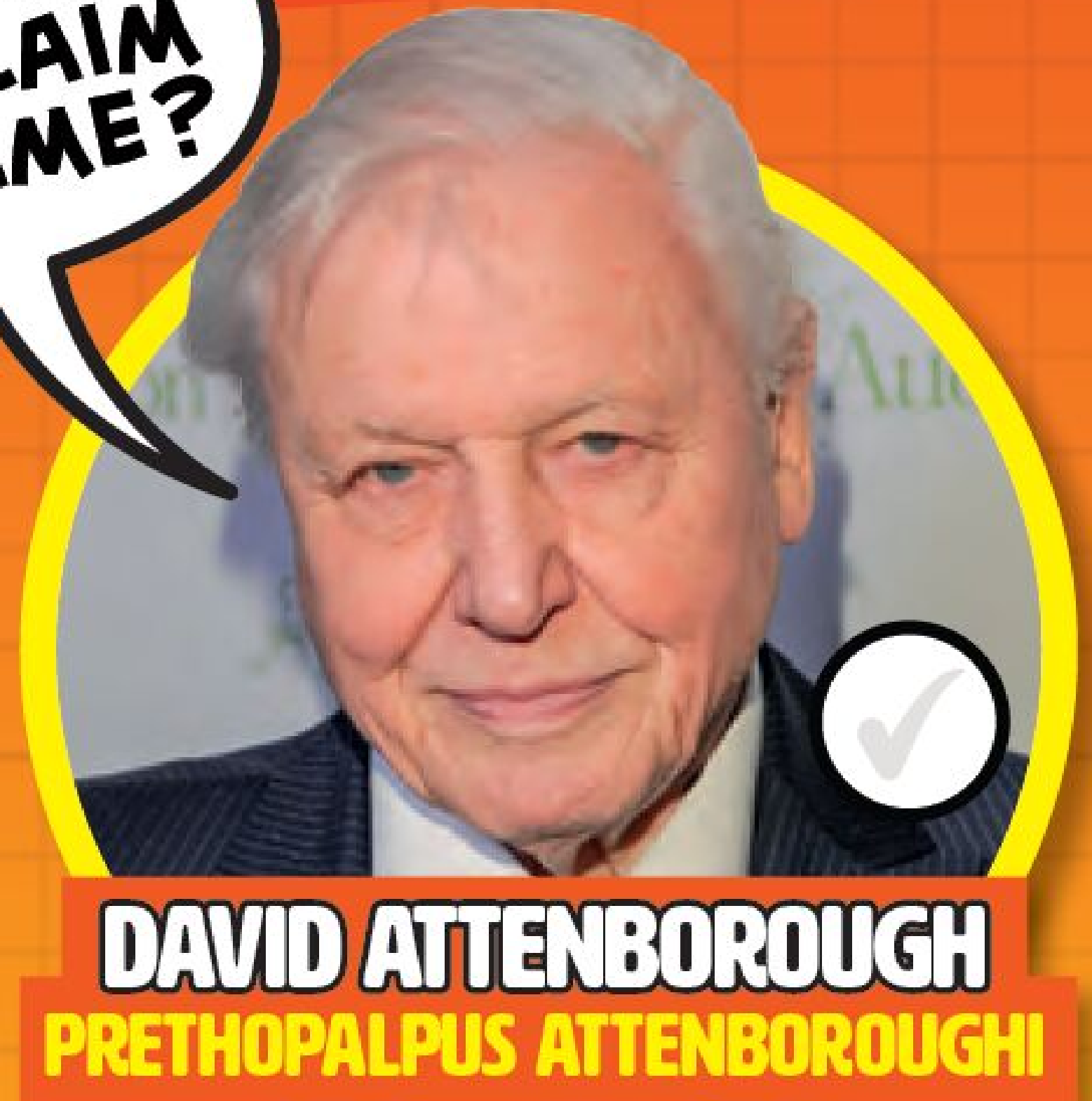
AM I THE FAKE?

✓ **TOM HOLLAND**
FILISTATA HOLLANDAE

✓ **ANGELINA JOLIE**
APTOSTICHUS ANGELINAJOLEAE



✓ **BARACK OBAMA**
APOSTICHUS BARAKOBAMA


IS THIS MY CLAIM TO FAME?

✓ **DAVID ATTENBOROUGH**
PRETHOPALPUS ATTENBOROUGHI

ANSWER: All of these celebrity spider varieties are real except Filistata Hollandae!

SUPER SPIDERS!

LET'S GET TO KNOW SOME OF THE WEIRD AND WONDERFUL SPECIES OF SPIDER!

I WONDER HOW GOOD THAT BIRD TASTES?

BRAZILIAN WANDERING SPIDER

● The world's deadliest spider doesn't build webs, instead they stalk forest floors seeking out prey, which they hunt by directly attacking. While their bite is dangerous, it's only used as a means of self-defence.

MYRMARACHNE

● Pronounced *meer-mire-acne*, these clever spiders are known for mimicking ants to avoid being eaten… so it can then eat the ants. BRUTAL!

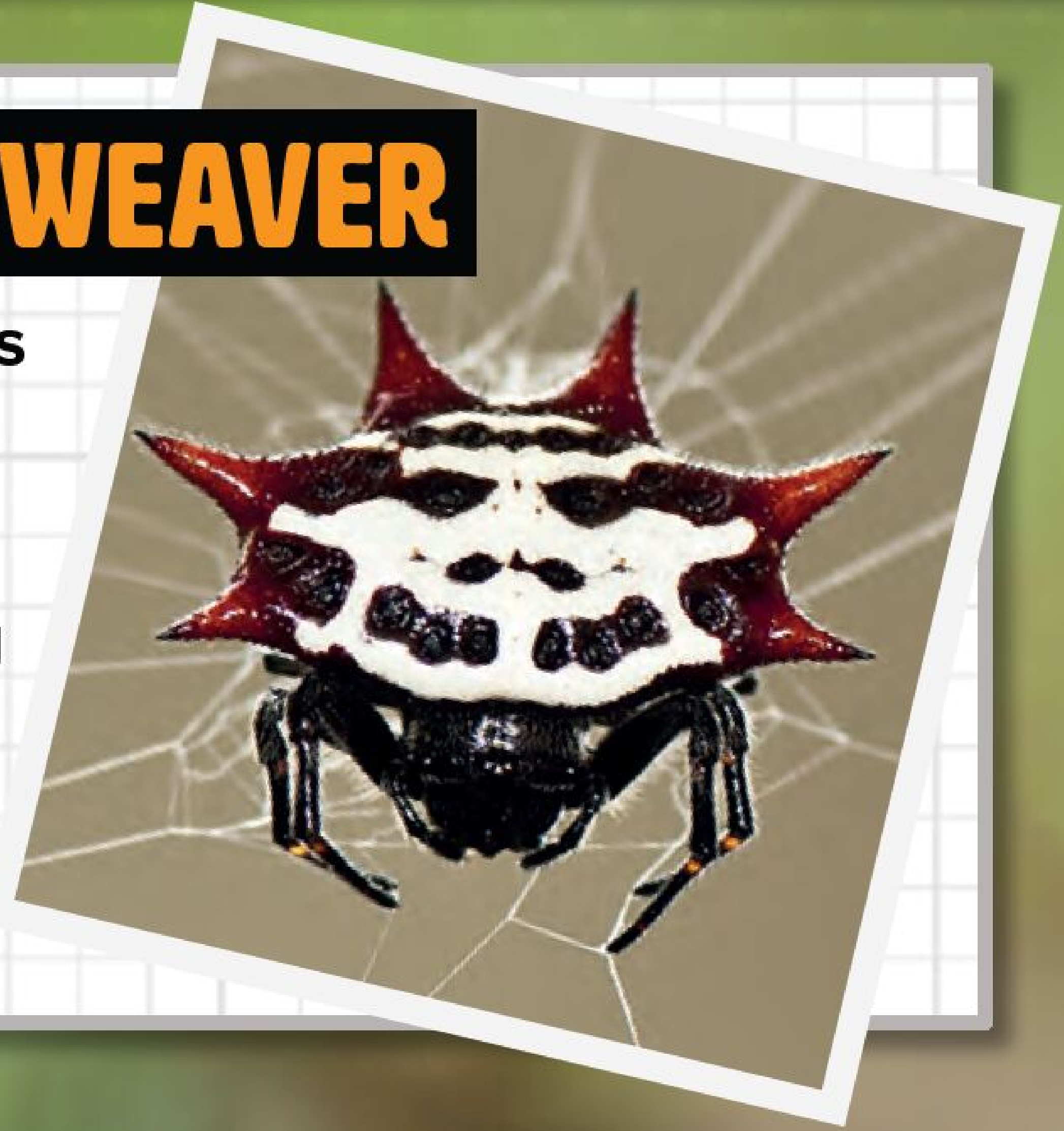
I'M FEELING ANTSY!

JUMPING SPIDER

● AKA the cutest spider ever, in our opinion! They can be found all over the world and form the largest spider family with over 6,000 species. Jumping spiders leap to catch their prey rather than build a traditional web.

SPINY ORB WEAVER

● These spiky spiders build orb-shaped webs which can reach around 60cm in diameter and hang up to 6m off the ground, which can be shared with other spiders.



BIRD-DUNG CRAB SPIDER

● This spider is covered in warts which make it look just like bird poo. It smells like poo too, protecting against predators, and luring in flies to eat. YUCK!

GOLDENROD SPIDER

● Typically found on yellow or white flowers, goldenrods can change their body colour to blend in with their surroundings. It takes nearly a month to change from white to yellow, but only a week to blend from yellow to white.

THE FLIC-FLAC SPIDER

● These incredible gymnasts can cartwheel to escape predators! They can tumble forwards and backwards at speeds of around 2 metres per second over the sands of Morocco.

WOLF SPIDER

● Just like wolves, wolf spiders chase and pounce on their prey! Their eight eyes give them great eyesight, which helps them to hunt and navigate in the dark.

WICKED WEBS

THESE SPIDERWEB FACTS MAY SURPRISE YOU!

SHOOT FOR THE STARS... OR THE OTHER SIDE OF THE LAKE!

IT'S A DAILY GRIND FOR THE HUMBLE SPIDER, AS MANY REPLACE THEIR WEBS EVERY SINGLE DAY!

Spiders have a keen eye for design, decorating their webs with extra silk designs called stabilimenta.

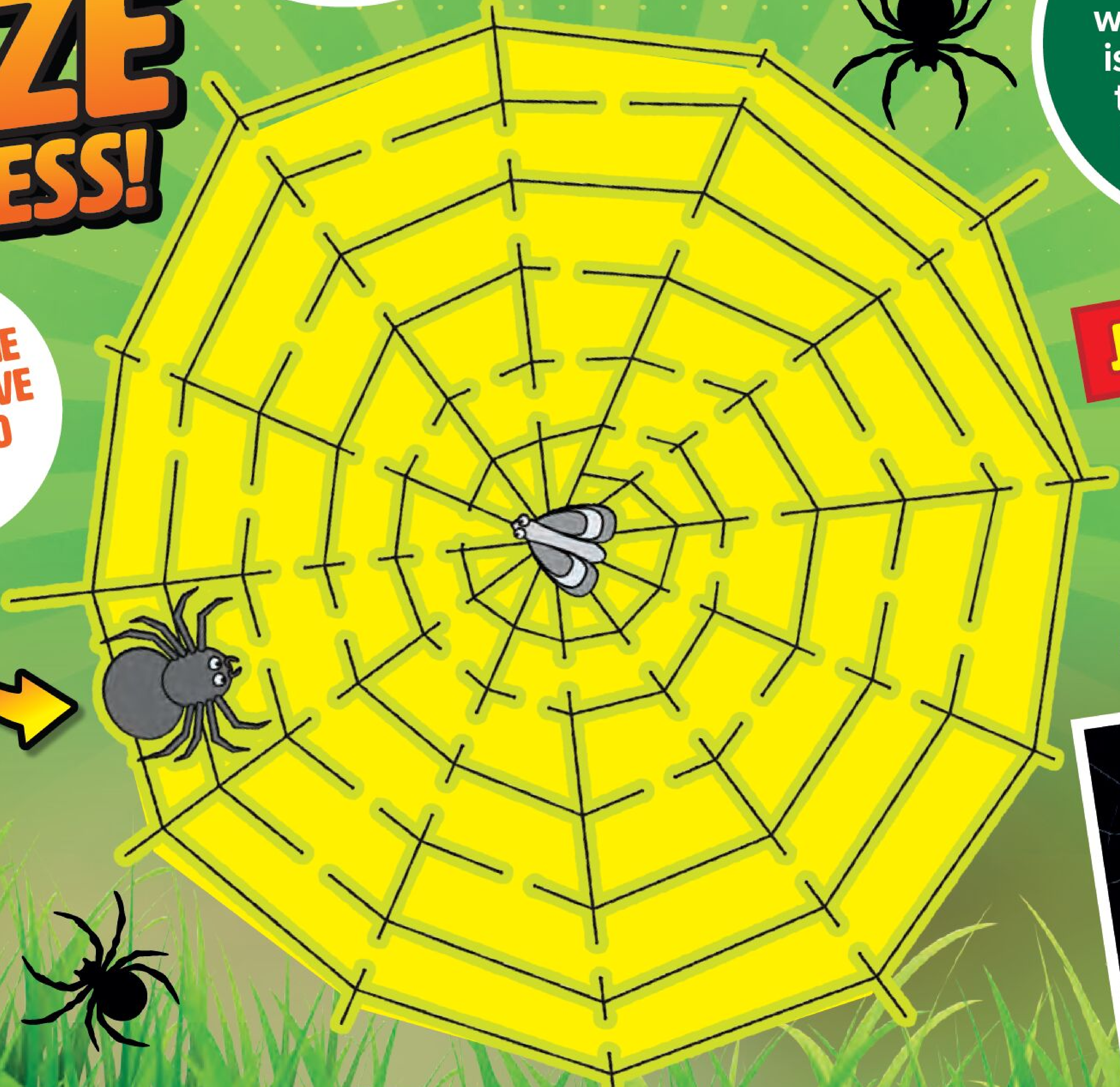
SOME SPIDERS, LIKE THE **DARWIN'S BARK SPIDER**, CAN BUILD WEBS OF UP TO 24 METRES, SPANNING ENTIRE LAKES TO CATCH BIGGER INSECTS LIKE DRAGONFLIES.

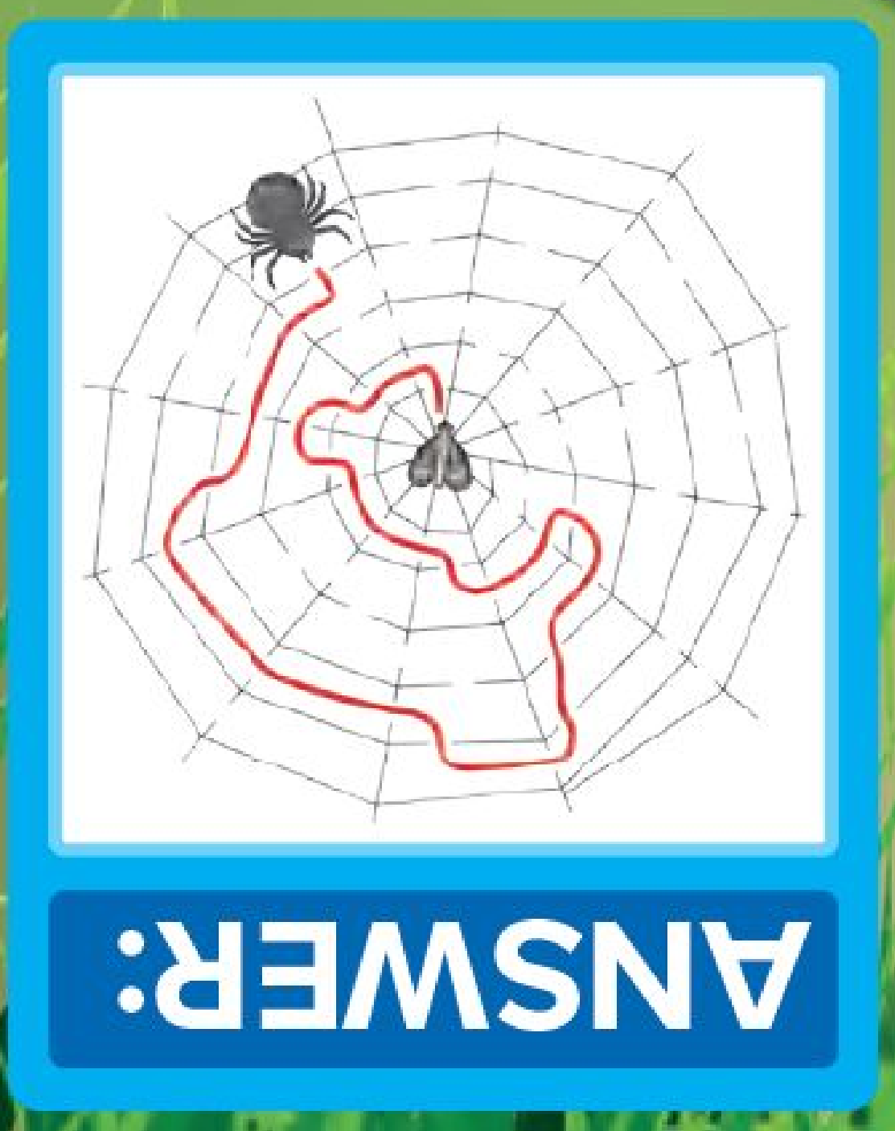
Spiders spin webs with silk which is 1,000 times thinner than human hair!

MAZE MADNESS!

CAN YOU HELP THE SPIDER WEAVE ITS WAY TO THE FLY?

START:



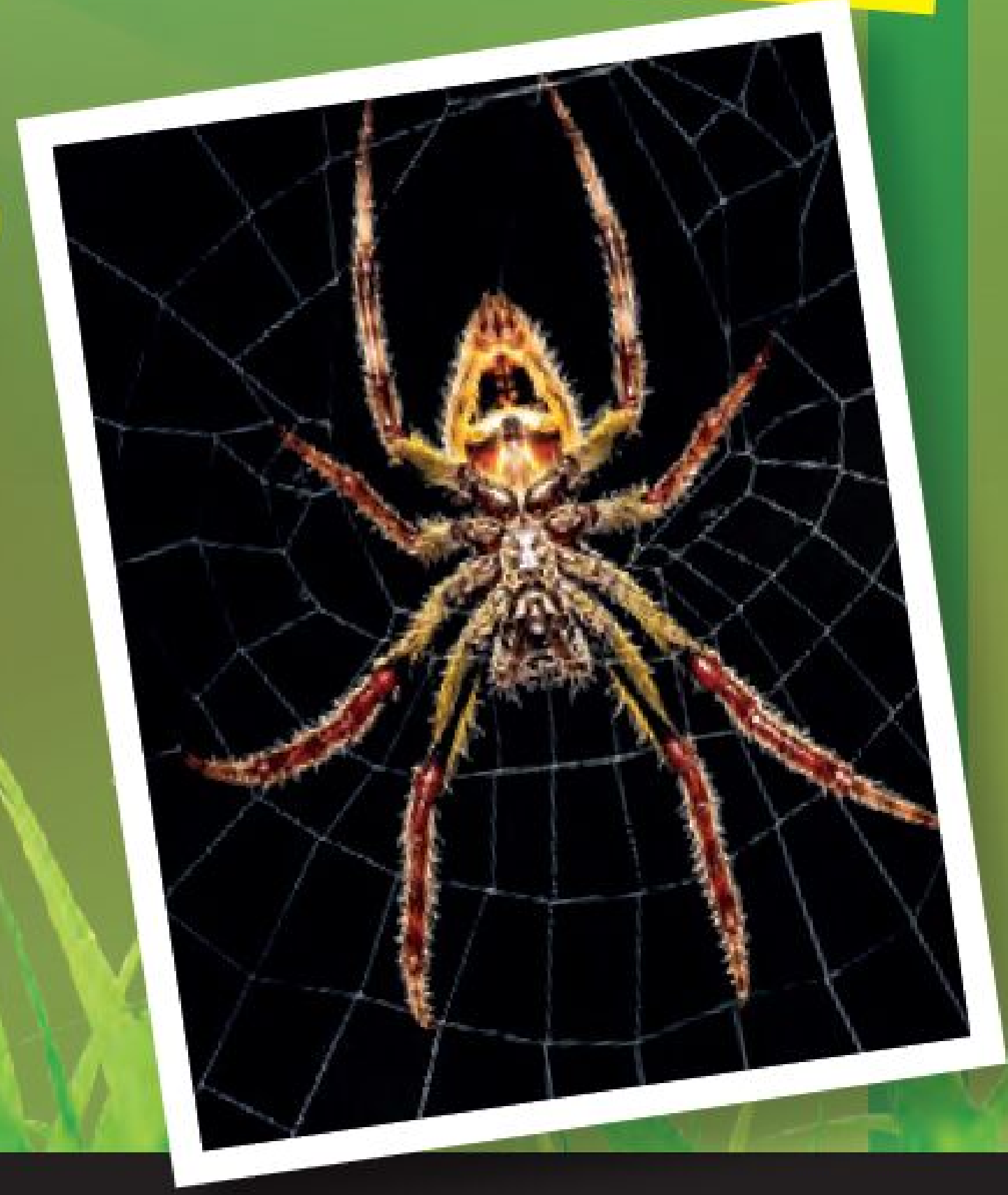


ANSWER:

JOKE ALERT!

WHAT DO YOU CALL AN UNDERCOVER TARANTULA?

A SPY-DER!



TRUE OR FALSE?

TEST YOUR SPIDER KNOWLEDGE! TICK WHAT YOU THINK IS CORRECT!

1 SOME TARANTULAS FIRE THEIR HAIR BRISTLES TOWARDS PREDATORS!
TRUE ☐ FALSE ☐

2 SPIDERS EAT MORE INSECTS THAN BIRDS.
TRUE ☐ FALSE ☐

3 SPIDERS HAVE OVER 20,000 TEETH TO CHEW THEIR PREY.
TRUE ☐ FALSE ☐

4 IT'S BEEN PROVEN THAT SOME SPIDERS ARE SCARED OF OTHERS.
TRUE ☐ FALSE ☐

ANSWERS: 1. True 2. True 3. False 4. True

LOONY LIZARDS!

FRILLED-NECK LIZARD

DIET: CARNIVORE
LIFE SPAN: UP TO 20 YEARS
SIZE: 91CM **WEIGHT:** 500G

As well as scaring off attackers, scientists think the frills on this lizard are used to control body temperature too.

BLUE-TONGUED SKINKS

DIET: OMNIVORE
LIFE SPAN: 10 - 20 YEARS (IN CAPTIVITY)
SIZE: 60CM
WEIGHT: 490G

When this lizard is attacked or threatened, does it run? Nope. Fight back? Not quite. It sticks its bright ultraviolet blue tongue out at them to scare them off.

THORNY DEVIL

DIET: ANTS
LIFE SPAN: UP TO 20 YEARS
SIZE: 20CM **WEIGHT:** 110G

This trickster lizard has a fake spiky 'head' so it can hide its real head when attacked and gives the predator a nasty surprise! It drinks water by collecting dew on its thorny back and using muscles to make it trickle into its mouth.

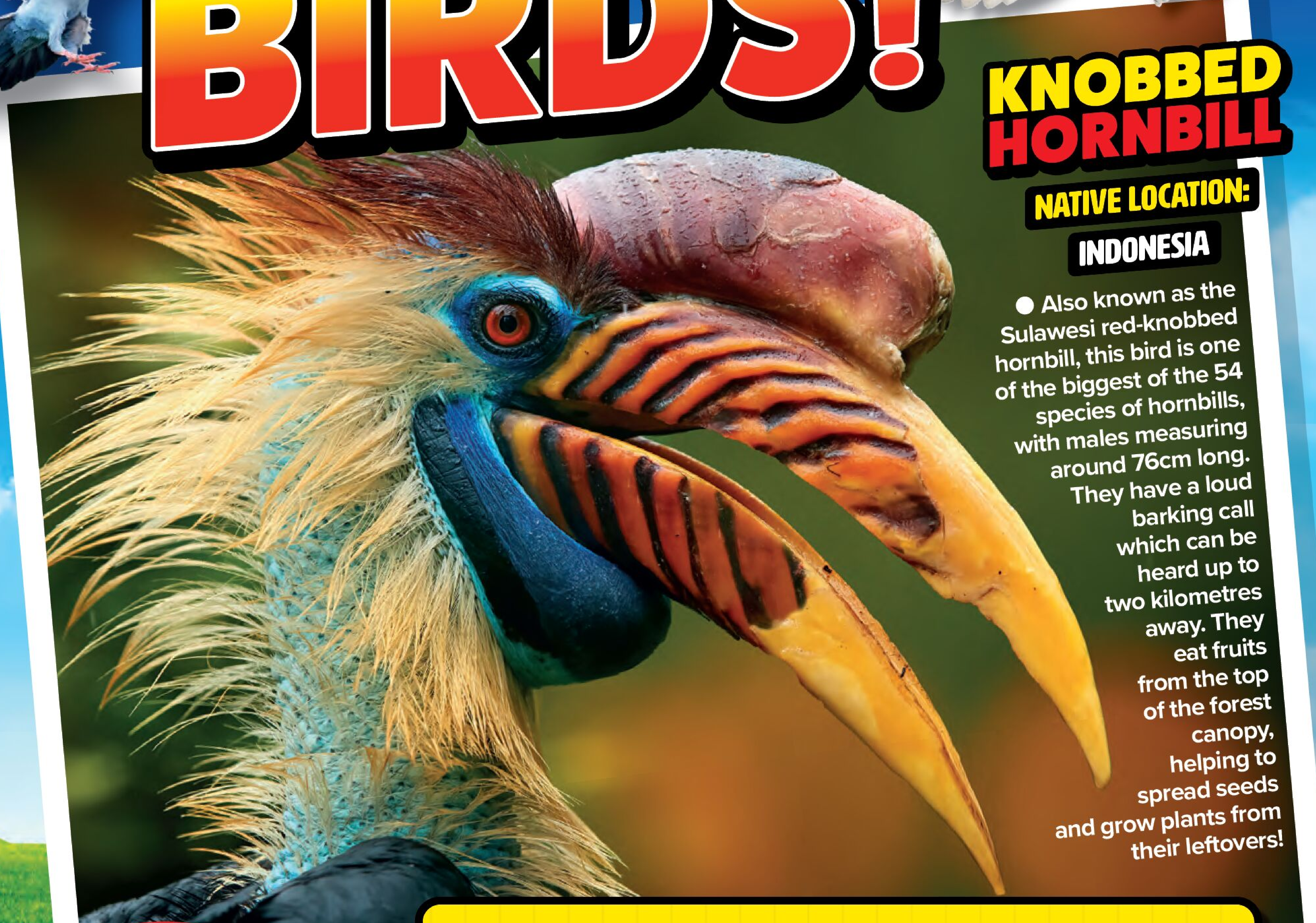
AUSTRALIAN WATER DRAGON

DIET: OMNIVORE
LIFE SPAN: 20 YEARS (IN CAPTIVITY)
SIZE: 60CM **WEIGHT:** 1KG

These lizards communicate with each other by head-bobbing, saluting or licking. The clue is in the name, but water dragons LOVE sleeping, eating, and going to the toilet underwater, and can stay submerged for over an hour.

LET'S TAKE TO THE SKIES TO SEE SOME OF EARTH'S MOST...

BIZARRE BIRDS!



KNOBBED HORNBILL

NATIVE LOCATION:

INDONESIA

- Also known as the Sulawesi red-knobbed hornbill, this bird is one of the biggest of the 54 species of hornbills, with males measuring around 76cm long. They have a loud barking call which can be heard up to two kilometres away. They eat fruits from the top of the forest canopy, helping to spread seeds and grow plants from their leftovers!

DID YOU KNOW?

THERE ARE AROUND 10,000 DIFFERENT SPECIES OF BIRD AROUND THE WORLD, WITH FIVE OR SIX NEW SPECIES DISCOVERED EVERY YEAR!

SCRAMBLED EGGS

Unscramble these birds' names to learn some CRACKING new facts.

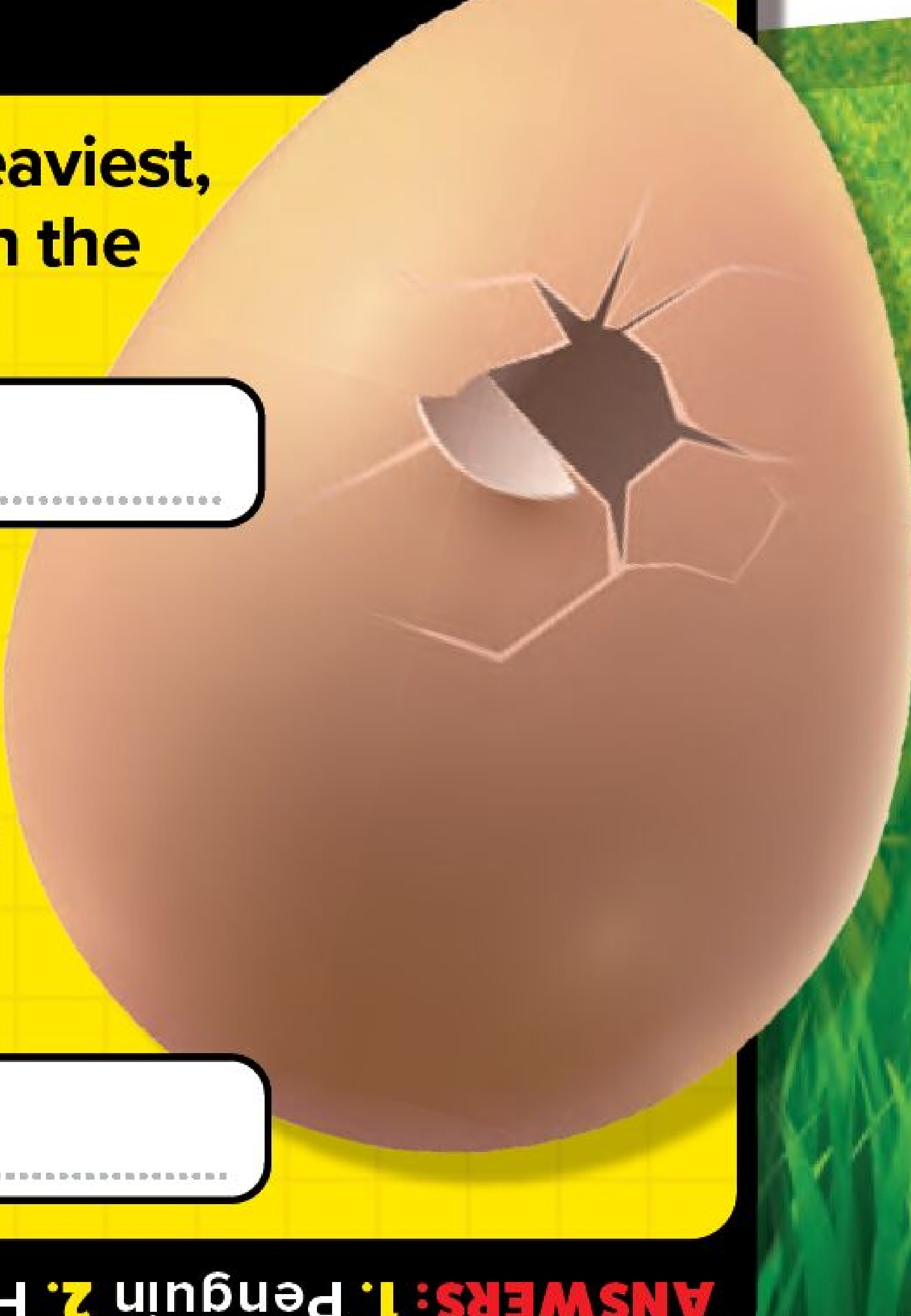
1. The only bird that can swim and not fly is the...

2. This bird lays pea-sized eggs and is the only bird that can fly backwards!

3. This blind bird hunts by smell (and is wingless!)

4. The largest, heaviest, and tallest bird in the world is the...

5. With up to 25,000 of them, the award for the bird with the most feathers goes to the...

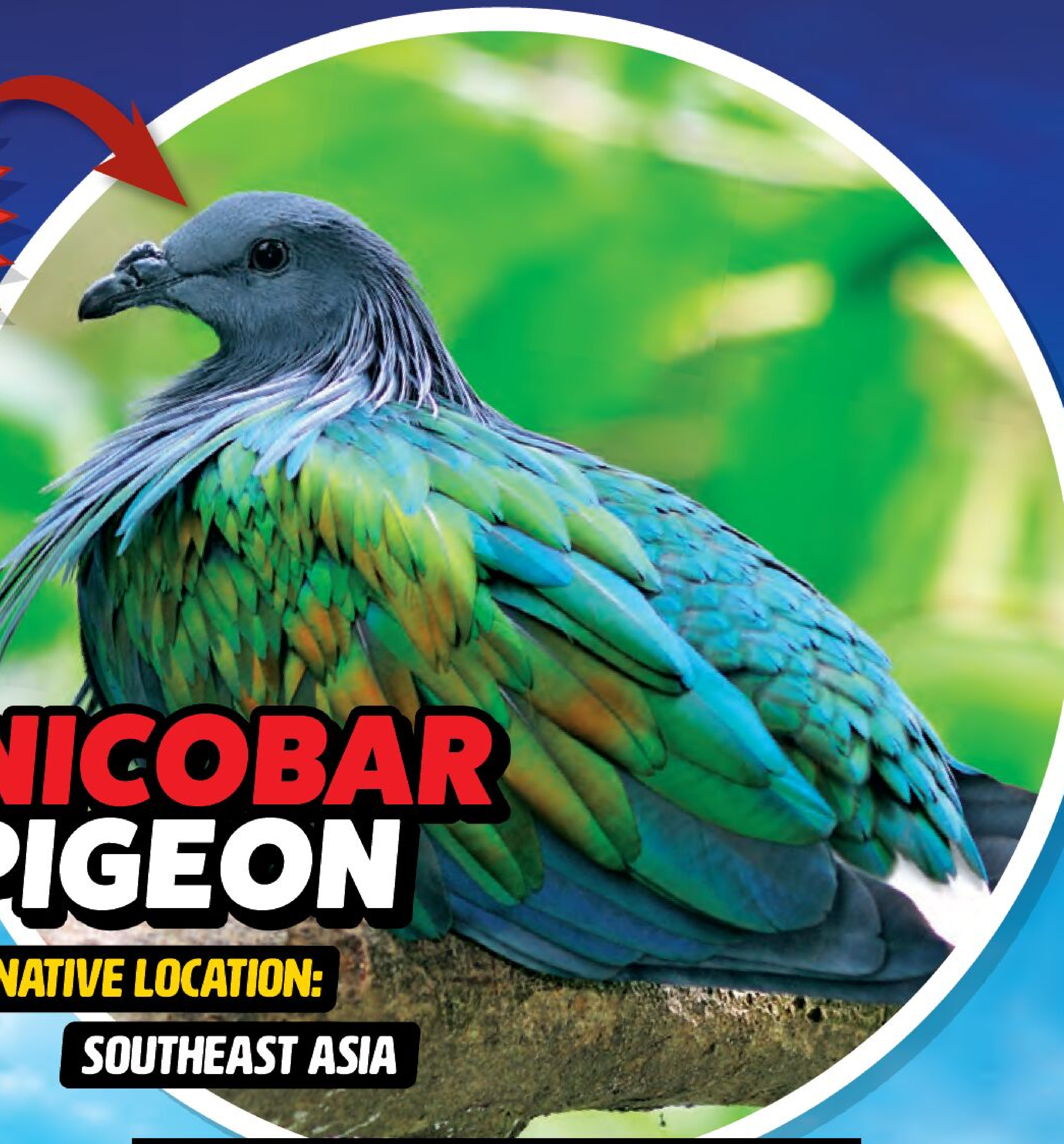


ANSWERS: 1. Penguin 2. Hummingbird 3. Kiwi 4. Ostrich 5. Whistling swan

DID YOU KNOW?

THE EARLIEST KNOWN BIRD LIVED AROUND 147 MILLION YEARS AGO AND HAD A LONG, BONY TAIL AND TEETH!

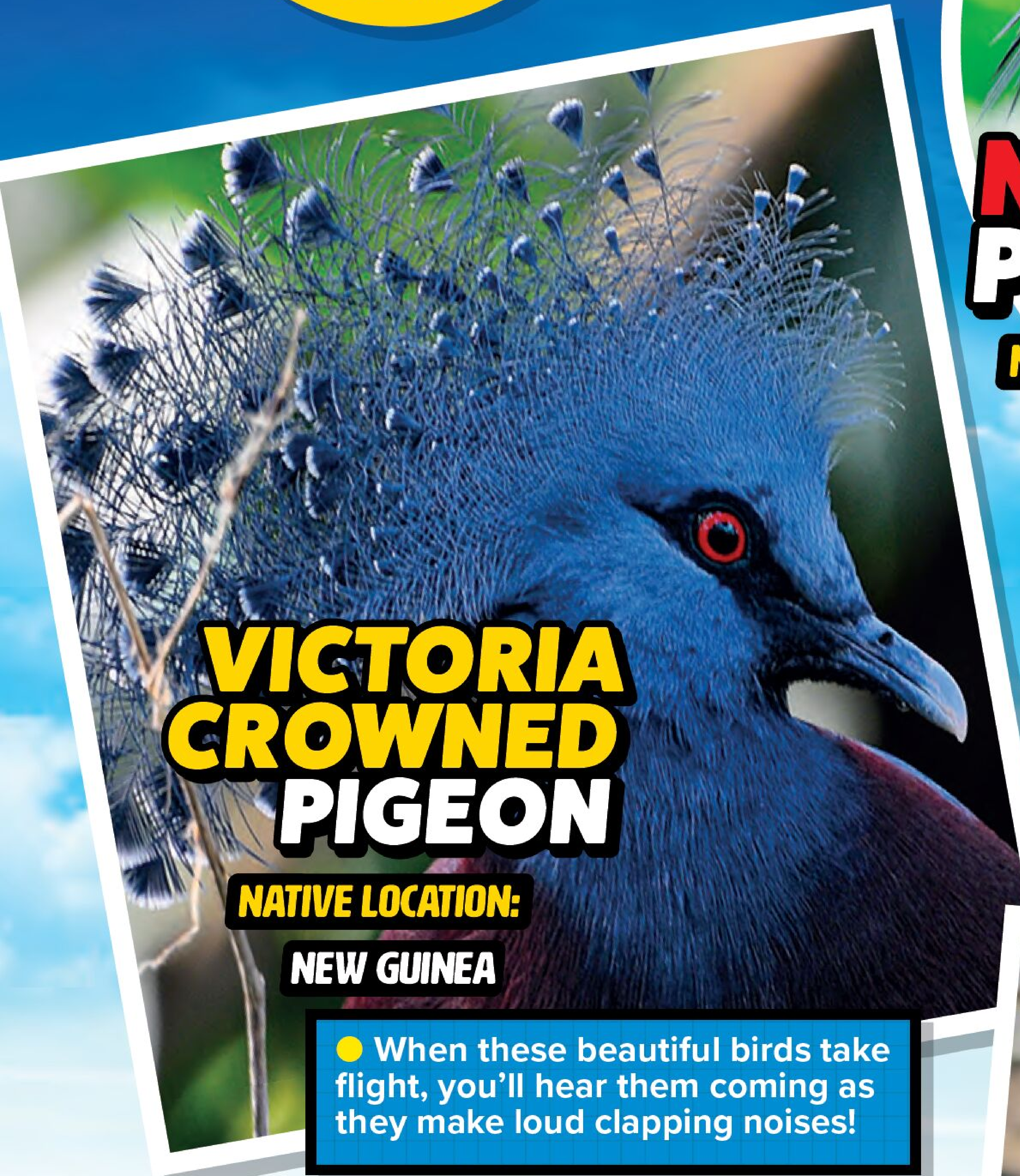
THE NICOBAR PIGEON IS THOUGHT TO BE THE NEAREST LIVING RELATIVE TO THE DODO!



NICOBAR PIGEON

NATIVE LOCATION: SOUTHEAST ASIA

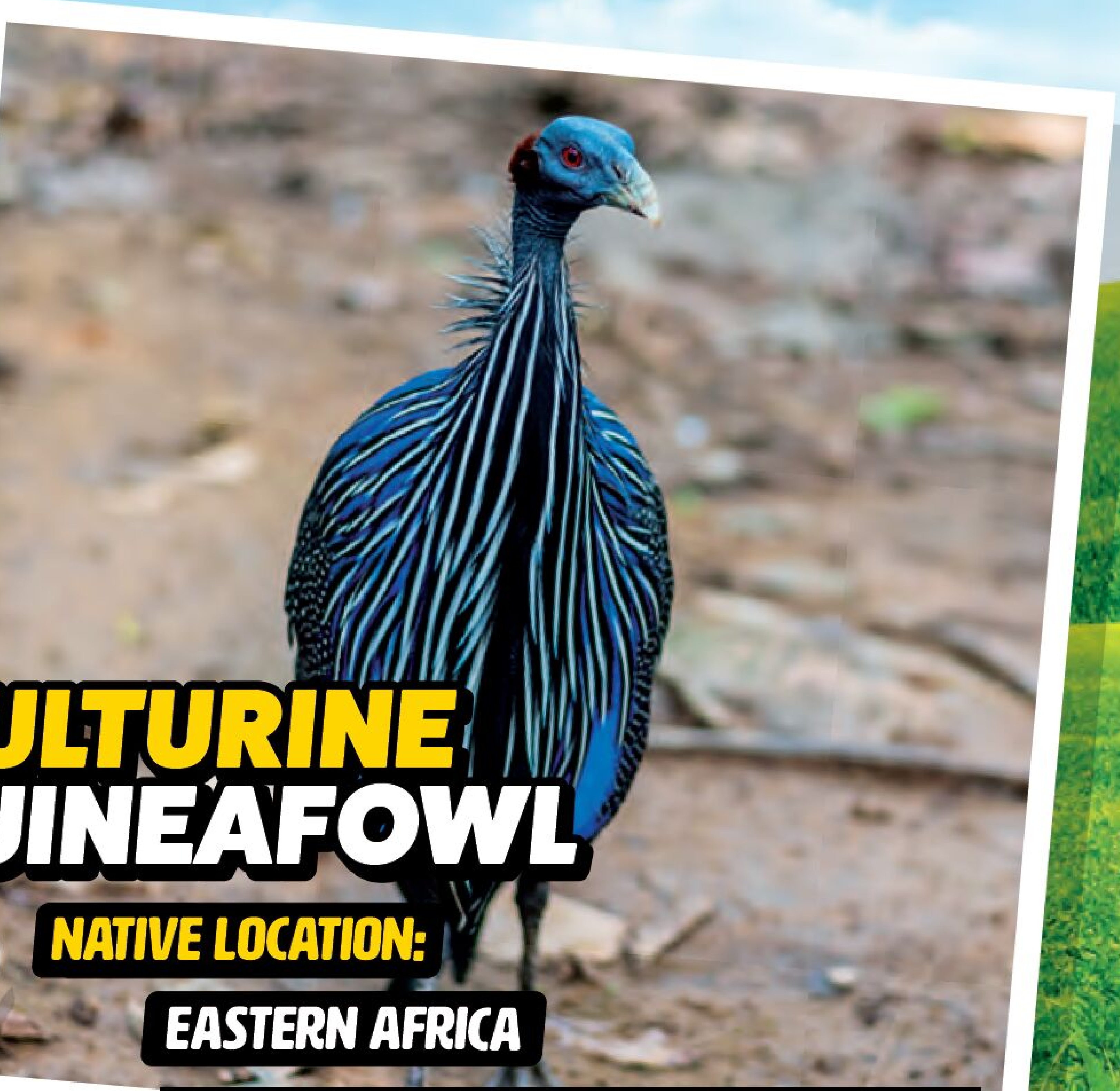
- This beautiful bird looks a little different to the pigeons we usually see! The Nicobar pigeon can eat hard nuts with the help of a gizzard stone, a rock they swallow which is held in the intestines and can grind up food to help with digestion. It's thought that dinosaurs had these too!



VICTORIA CROWNED PIGEON

NATIVE LOCATION: NEW GUINEA

- When these beautiful birds take flight, you'll hear them coming as they make loud clapping noises!



VULTURINE GUINEAFOWL

NATIVE LOCATION: EASTERN AFRICA

- With their ornate cape and bald, vulture-like head, the vulturine guineafowl definitely stands out! They can hit speeds of up to 22mph on land, so they hardly ever have to fly!

GOLDEN PHEASANT

NATIVE LOCATION:

CHINA

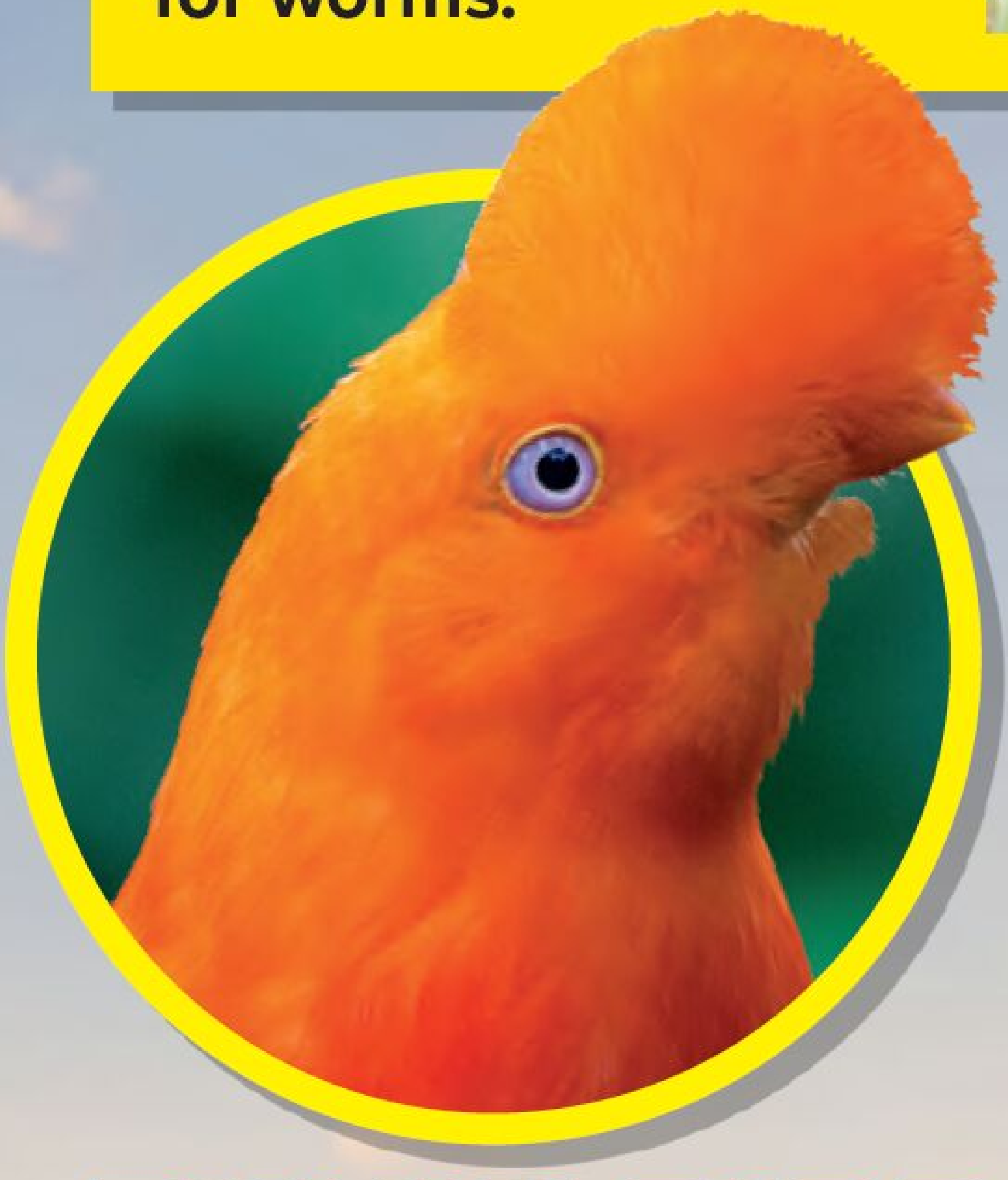
■ These bright birds are very timid, choosing to hide in dense forests during the day and roosting high in the trees at night, meaning we know little about their natural behaviour. The Chinese believe this bird is the ancestor of the fiery phoenix!

BASSIAN THRUSHES

■ These stinky birds ‘fart’ to find their prey! Some scientists observed a ‘jet of air’ disturbing the ground for worms.

NATIVE LOCATION:

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND



TUNKI BIRD

■ Get your shades ready for this NEON orange bird native to Peru!

VICTORIA’S RIFLEBIRD

■ Found in Northeastern Australia, the male Victoria’s riflebird likes to show off his bright yellow mouth when making a display!

KING VULTURES

■ These colourful fellows can be found in Central and Southern America in tropical rainforests! The weird skin on its beak is called a ‘caruncle’! Nobody knows why it’s there.

BIRDS BY NUMBERS

THERE ARE **50 BILLION** BIRDS WORLDWIDE!

WITH **5** DIFFERENT TYPES OF BEAKS ALL FOR EATING DIFFERENT KINDS OF FOOD!

40% OF BIRDS MIGRATE DURING THE WINTER TO STAY WARM.

THE AFRICAN GREY PARROT CAN LEARN **800** WORDS!

150 MILLION YEARS IS HOW LONG SCIENTISTS THINK BIRDS HAVE BEEN ON OUR PLANET.

2 OUT OF **3** OF THE WORLD’S BIRD SPECIES ARE FOUND IN THE RAINFOREST.

WHY?

...DO CHIMPS RECOGNISE EACH OTHER BY THEIR BUTTS?

CHIMPANZEE FACT FILE

DIET: MAINLY FRUITS, LEAVES, HONEY AND INSECTS
POPULATION: ESTIMATED TO BE BETWEEN 170,000 – 300,000.
LIFESPAN: AROUND 30 YEARS

DO I RECOGNISE YOU?

When we recognise someone we know, our brains remember all of the familiar features found on a person's face, like the colour of their eyes or the shape of their nose. However, a study conducted in 2016 by Leiden University, found that chimps are able to recognise one another by their butts too! How a-butt that?!

FUN FACT!

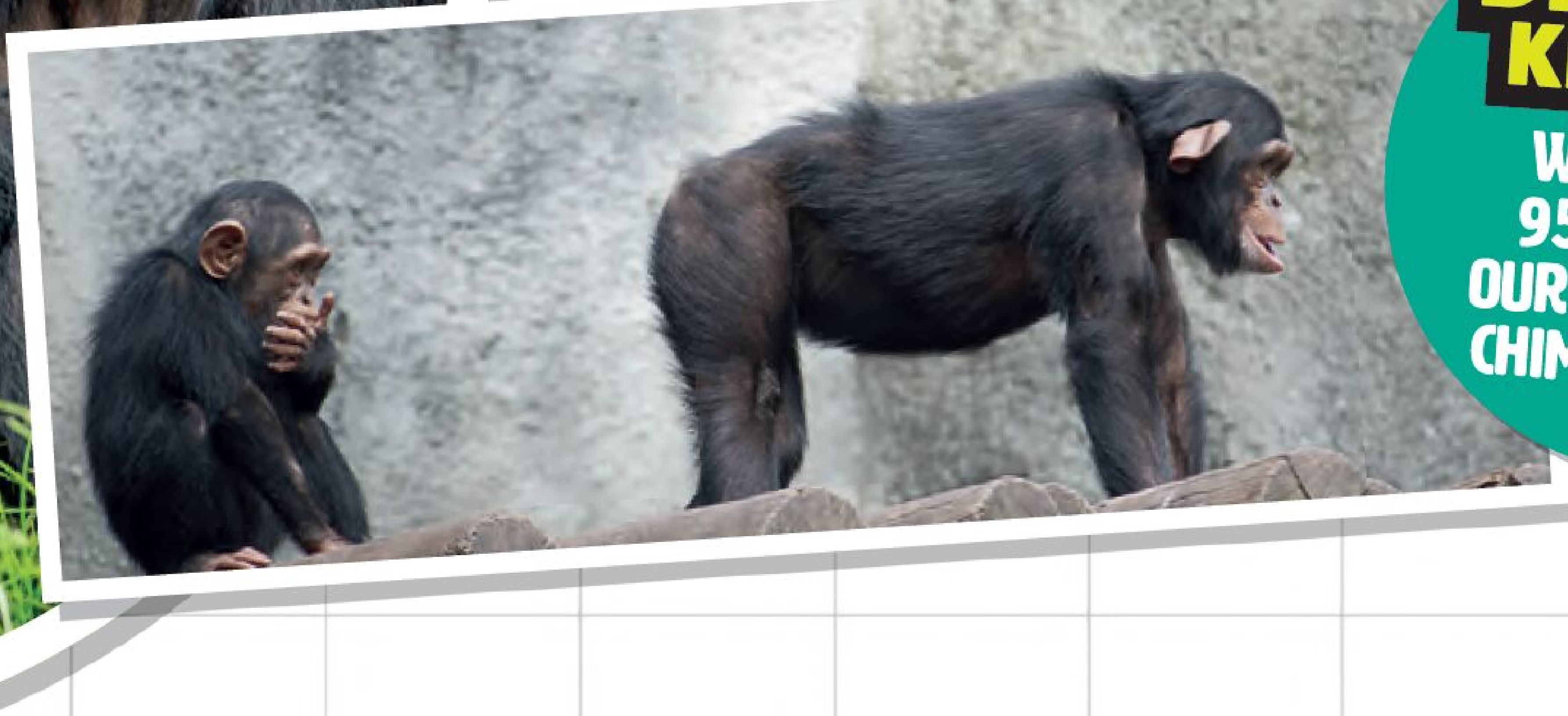
IN CAPTIVITY, SOME CHIMPS HAVE BEEN TAUGHT AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL) TO COMMUNICATE WITH HUMANS.

FROM ONE BUTT TO ANOTHER

Just by looking at another's rear end, chimps can tell whether they are walking behind one of their relatives. These primates are able to identify the shape, colour, and texture of a bottom to determine who it belongs to.

EXIT STRATEGY

When humans greet one another, we often do it with a wave, a handshake, or even a hug! In the chimpanzee world, when an individual wishes to greet another chimp who is higher up in the group (chimpanzees have hierarchies), they will often crouch down and present their bottoms. They do this as a sign of respect towards the higher-ranking chimp and to indicate that they don't plan on causing any trouble! This behaviour is also displayed when a chimpanzee feels nervous and is looking for reassurance from a dominant member of the group.



DID YOU KNOW?

WE SHARE 95-98% OF OUR DNA WITH CHIMPANZEES.

FAN-TACHE-TIC ANIMALS!

***THAT'S NOT A HAIRY CATERPILLAR ON THEIR FACE, THESE ANIMALS ALL HAVE* MARVELLOUS MOUSTACHES!**

WALRUS

- The whiskers on a walrus are called vibrissae (vih-brih-say) and they have 400-700 of them surrounding their tusks that can grow up to 30cm long. Because the ocean floor is so dark and their vision poor, they use them to feel around for food.

INCA TERNS

- The longer the tache, the healthier the bird is, and long whiskers make other inca terns like them more. Though sea lions and dolphins don't like them much, inca terns have been spotted diving down to snatch food right out of their mouths!

EMPEROR TAMARIN

- Named after the German **Emperor Wilhelm II** as its white moustache looked just like his. They let other monkeys know they're annoyed by sticking out their tongue at them. Cheeky!

PATAS MONKEY

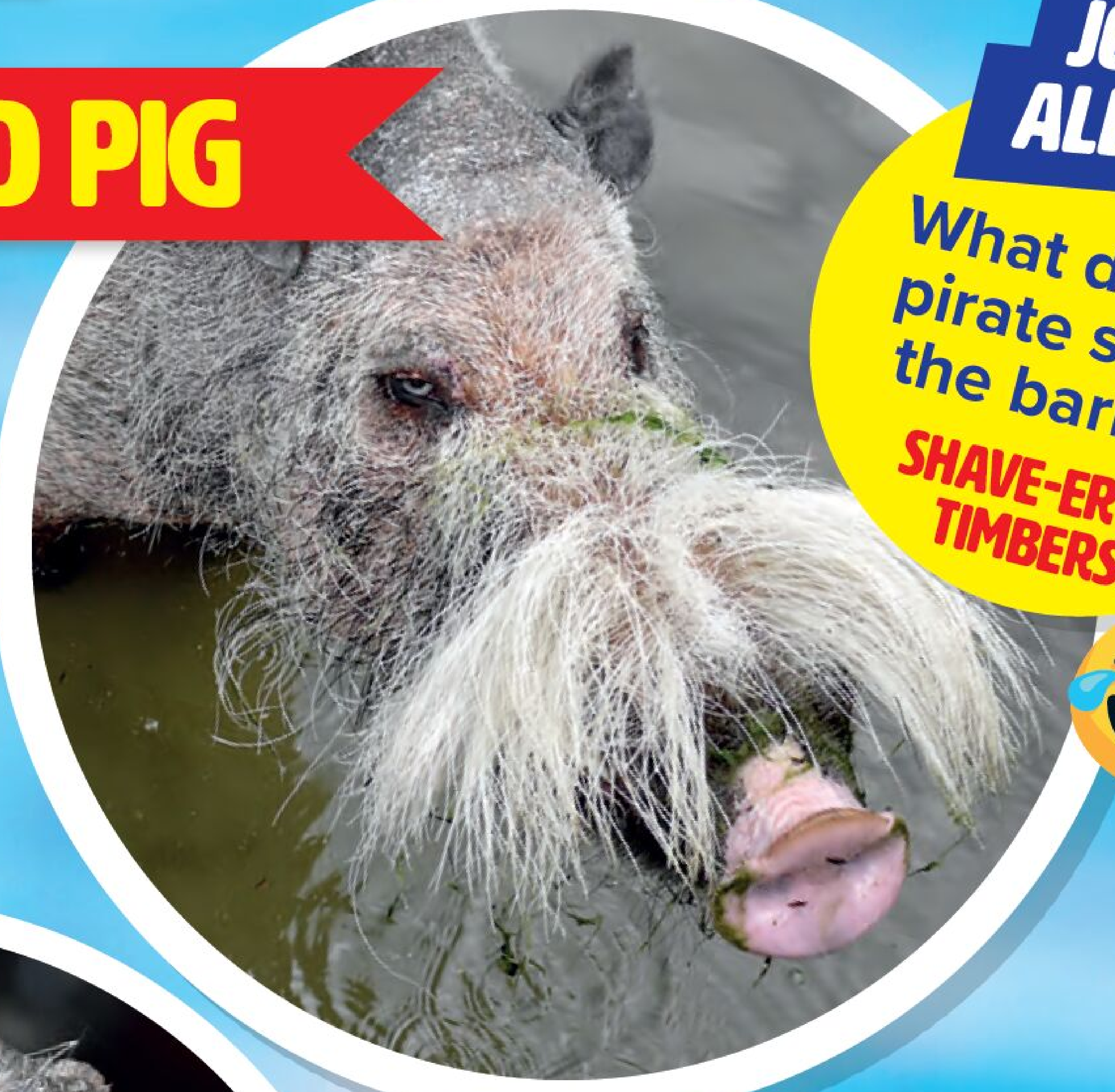
- With their red coat and soldier-like moustache, they've been nicknamed 'Military Monkeys'. They live in troops of up to 40 members and can hit speeds of up to 35mph, making them the fastest primate on the planet!

CATFISH

- They may look like whiskers, but they're actually barbels made from skin. Covered in thousands of taste buds, they're used to smell food from miles away! Catfish come in all shapes and sizes, one was caught in Thailand that was as big as a grizzly bear!

BORNEAN BEARDED PIG

- It has the longest head of any pig in the world and two pairs of warts hidden under its facial fuzz. Incredible swimmers, they can cross large rivers and are the only pig in the world that migrates, travelling in herds of up to 200.



JOKE ALERT!

What did the pirate say to the barber?

SHAVE-ER ME TIMBERS!

JOKE ALERT!

Why did the man not shave off his moustache?

IT GREW ON HIM!

OTTERS

- Their wicked whiskers can detect movement and vibrations so they can hunt better in murky water. Otters have the thickest fur of any animal in the world with 800 million hairs! They have two layers of fur to keep them dry!

BEARDED SEALS

- Getting its name from the thick bristles on its muzzle, the bearded seal uses them to sift through sediment for crabs, shrimp, clams and snails in shallow waters. Males sing songs underwater in springtime that can be heard 12 miles away!

BATS HAVE BELLY BUTTONS, JUST LIKE US!

Baby bats are called **pups.** Most female bats will only have one pup a year.

BATS ARE THE ONLY FLYING MAMMAL.

EPIC FACTS ABOUT BR

THESE WINGED WONDERS ARE TRULY AMAZING!

A COMMON PIPISTRELLE BAT CAN EAT OVER **3,000** INSECTS IN JUST ONE NIGHT!

Bat poo is called guano and makes excellent fertiliser!

WITHOUT BATS WE WOULDN'T HAVE BANANAS, MANGOS OR AVOCADOS! OVER 300 SPECIES OF FRUIT RELY ON BATS TO POLLINATE THEM.

Bats help to pollinate the world, just like bees and birds. They also eat lots of bugs, helping to reduce the damage to crops and protecting us from nasty diseases spread by insects.

The Brazilian free-tailed bat is the fastest horizontally flying bat and mammal on our planet. They can reach speeds of up to **100MPH** – that's faster than a cheetah!

Flying foxes are the largest species of bat with a wingspan of

1.5M

Bats sleep upside down with their wings wrapped around them like a cloak. Dangling from a high position keeps them safe from predators and means they can instantly fly away if alerted to danger.

A group of bats is called a colony, cauldron, camp or cloud!

ILLIANT BATS!

IT'S A MYTH THAT BATS ARE BLIND! THEY ACTUALLY HAVE VERY GOOD EYESIGHT TO HELP THEM SEE IN PITCH-BLACK CONDITIONS LIKE A DEEP, DARK CAVE.

THERE ARE THREE SPECIES OF VAMPIRE BATS IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA. WHEN THEY'RE DONE FEEDING, THEY SPIT A PROTEIN CALLED 'DRACULIN' ON THE WOUND TO SEAL IT!

PALLID BATS EAT SCORPIONS! THEY'RE IMMUNE TO THEIR STINGS!

THE KITTI'S HOG-NOSED BAT, (ALSO CALLED THE BUMBLEBEE BAT) IS THE WORLD'S SMALLEST BAT *AND* THE WORLD'S SMALLEST MAMMAL! IT WEIGHS LESS THAN A PENNY AND IS AROUND THE SIZE OF A BUMBLEBEE.

BATS ARE VERY CLEAN ANIMALS. LIKE CATS, THEY SPEND A LOT OF TIME GROOMING THEMSELVES AND EACH OTHER.

BRACKEN CAVE IN TEXAS, USA, IS HOME TO THE WORLD'S LARGEST BAT COLONY. AN ESTIMATED WHOPPING 20 MILLION MEXICAN FREE-TAILED BATS LIVE THERE.

There are more than 1,300 bat species and they live in almost every habitat on Earth, apart from polar regions.

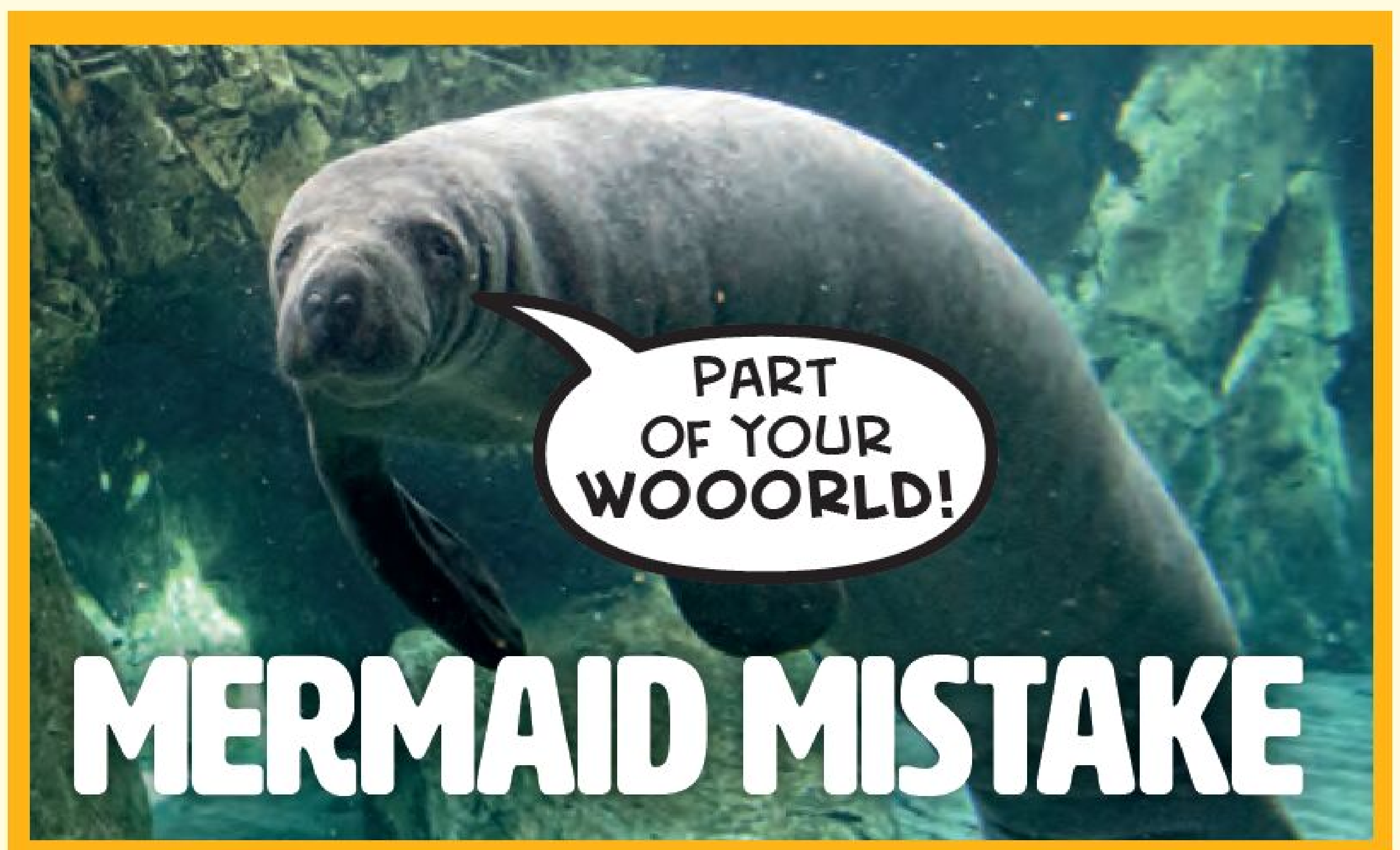
PLANET STRANGE

The weirdest facts from around the universe!

OH, YOU SMELL LOVELY!

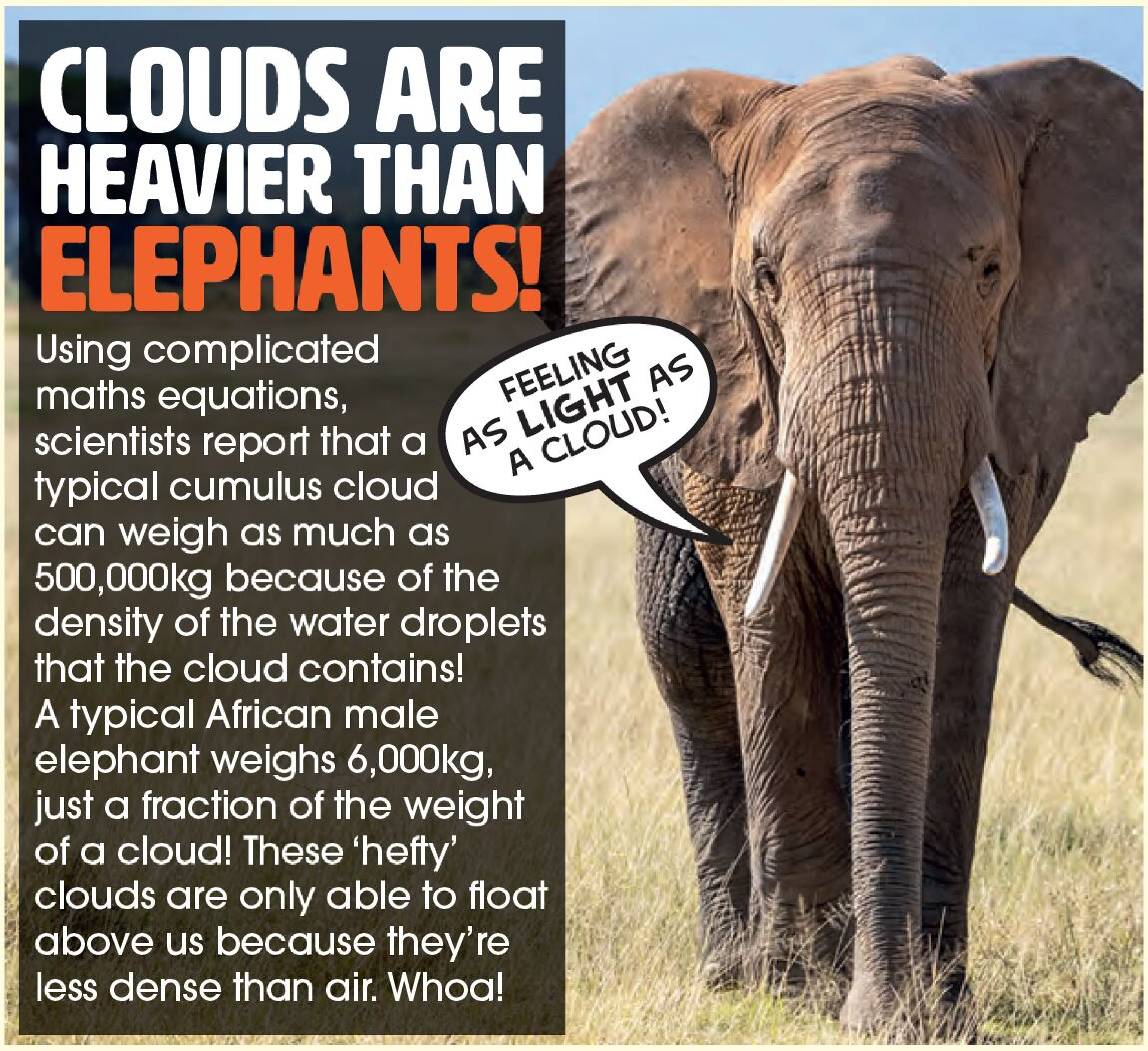
PANDA POOP DISGUISE!

Meet the world's most dedicated zookeepers! Caregivers at Wolong Nature Reserve, in China's Sichuan Province, are so passionate about preparing their panda cubs for a life in the wild that they will wear a panda costume and sprinkle themselves with panda poo and wee to try to hide their human scent! Not only does this mimic the pandas' natural environment, reducing the chances of them becoming attached to humans, but it also lowers stress, as the keepers appear familiar to their own kind.



MERMAID MISTAKE

Famous explorer Christopher Columbus reported that he spotted mermaids in the water near the Dominican Republic in 1493! However, we know mermaids aren't real and what was actually spotted were manatees, which is still pretty cool in our book! Manatees are often described as the cows of the sea, feasting on plants with no predators. What do you think — would you mistake one for a mermaid?



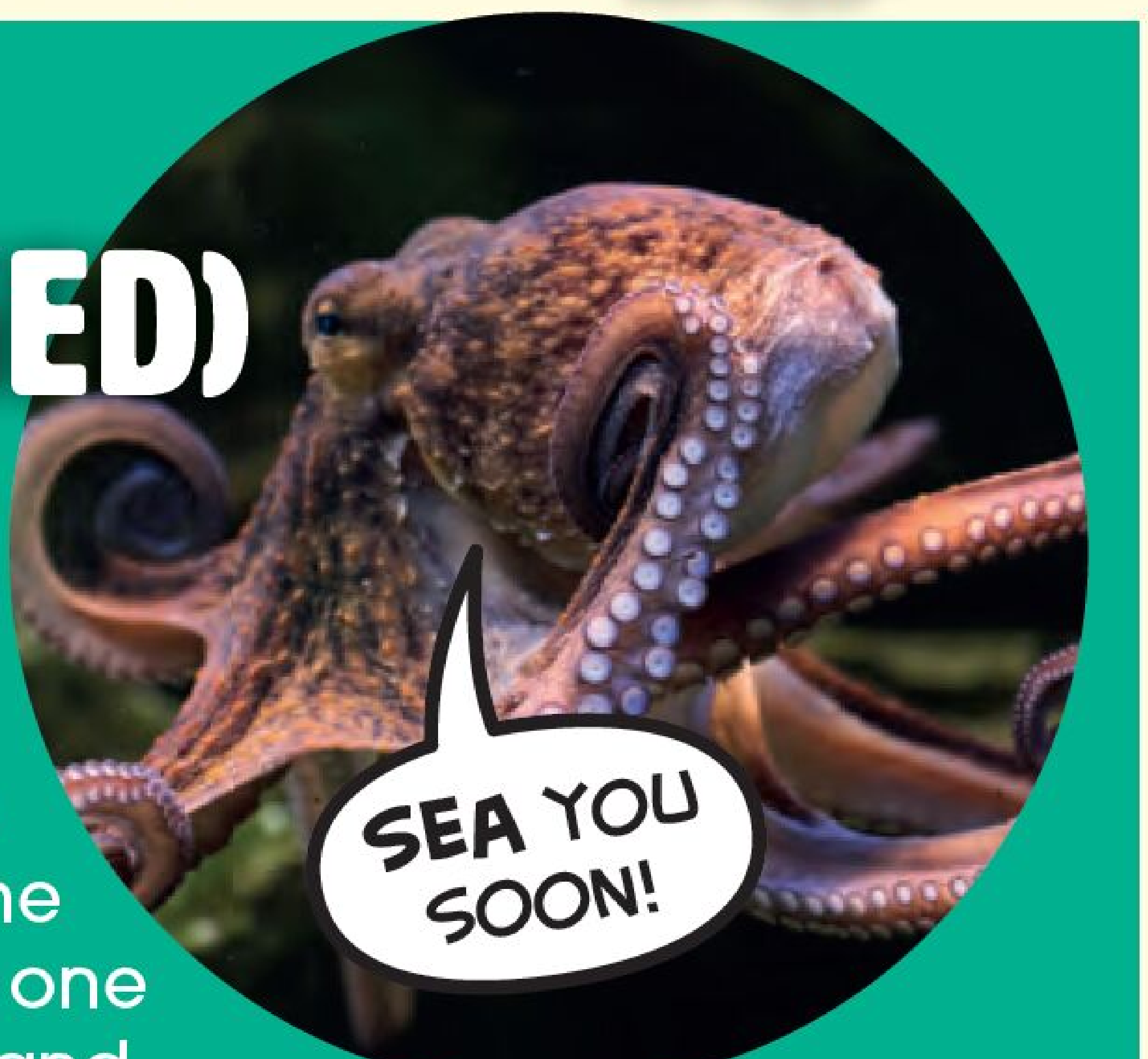
CLOUDS ARE HEAVIER THAN ELEPHANTS!

Using complicated maths equations, scientists report that a typical cumulus cloud can weigh as much as 500,000kg because of the density of the water droplets that the cloud contains! A typical African male elephant weighs 6,000kg, just a fraction of the weight of a cloud! These 'hefty' clouds are only able to float above us because they're less dense than air. Whoa!

ILLEGAL GUINEA PIGS

Did you know that it's illegal to own just one guinea pig in Switzerland? It may sound bonkers, but Swiss lawmakers introduced this rule because guinea pigs are sociable sweeties, and they think it's cruel to own one without a pal for company. Aww!

THE GREAT (EIGHT-LEGGED) ESCAPE!



Have you seen 'Finding Dory', where Hank's main mission is to bust out of the aquarium to live freely in the ocean? Well, back in 2016, one crafty octopus in New Zealand managed to do just that! Inky, a common New Zealand octopus, broke free after the lid of his tank wasn't closed properly by mistake. In the dead of night, it's believed that this particular mollusc made his way to an overflow drainpipe that led directly to the sea. Bon voyage, Inky!

MOVE OVER, SUPERMAN – DISCOVER THE REAL-LIFE SUPERHEROES YOU CAN FIND IN THE ANIMAL KINGDOM...

SECRET SUPERHEROES!

BOOM!
POW!!
KABOOM!
SPLASH!

LEARN ABOUT CREATURES THAT ARE SAVING THE WORLD EVERY DAY WITH THEIR SUPERPOWERS!

★★★

ANIMAL SUPER

Different animals have special skills and characteristics (something that defines them) that make them well-suited to the environment they live in. This is called adaptation because they've adapted (changed) to suit where they live — like putting on a coat to suit the cold weather!

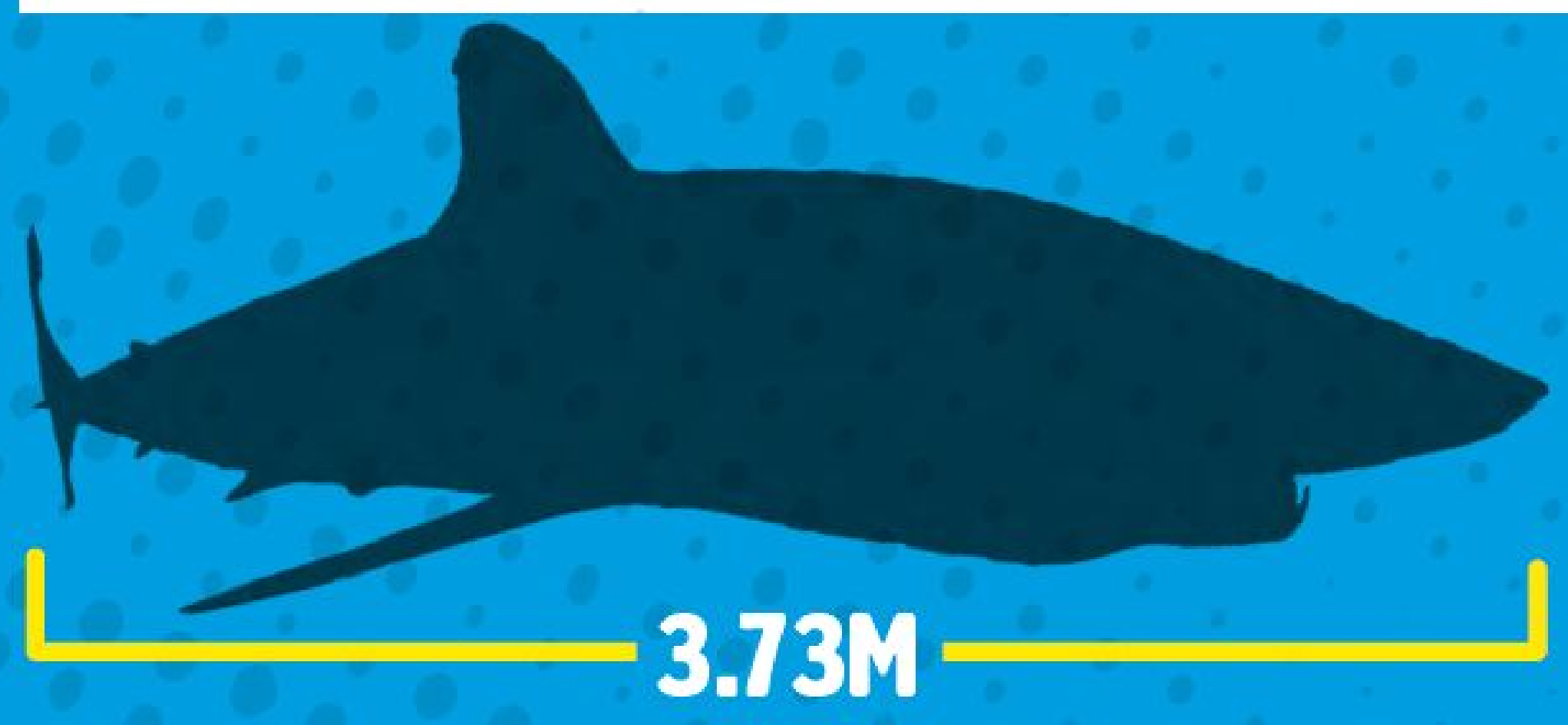
Adaptation doesn't happen that quickly though — animals can't decide what they want to change overnight. It takes many years and generations of a preferred characteristic being passed down through offspring (babies).

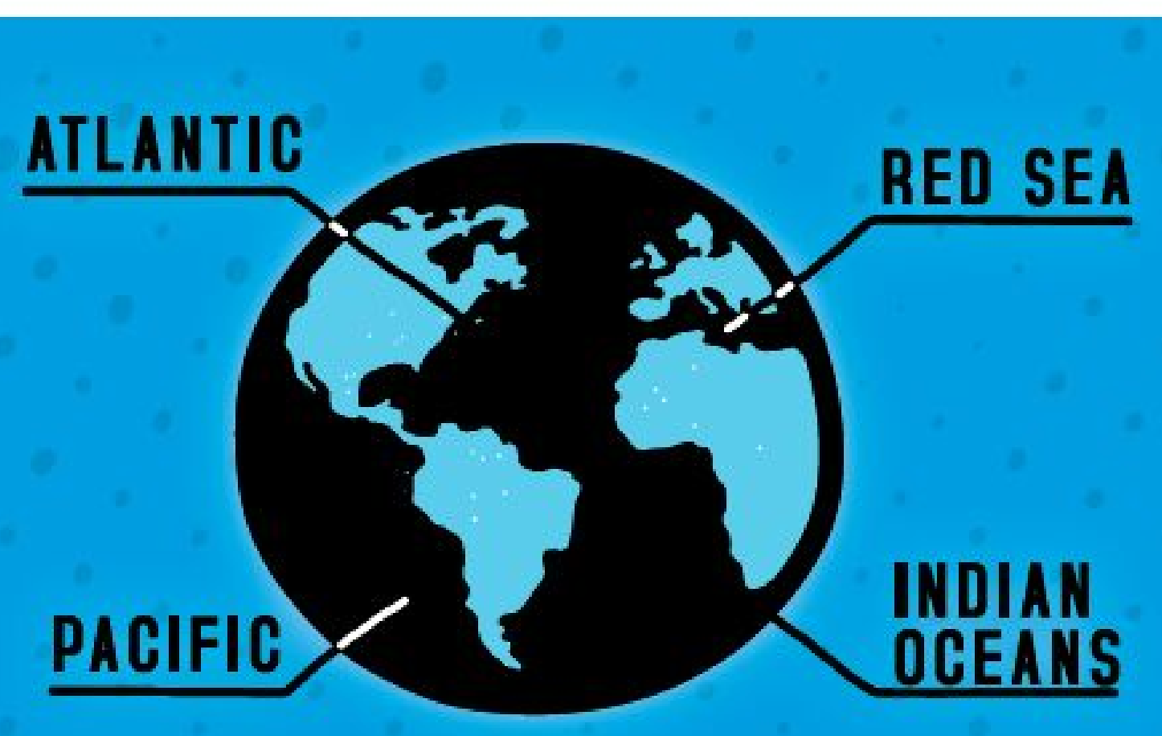
SHORTFIN MAKO SHARK

THE ***FASTEST*** *SHARK*

- Everything about this shark is built for speed! It has a textured skin that helps it cut through the water better and being warm-blooded means its muscles can work quicker to reach higher speeds.

- If that wasn't enough, it's also a keen fighter and can jump out of the water at heights of 20 feet!





45 MPH

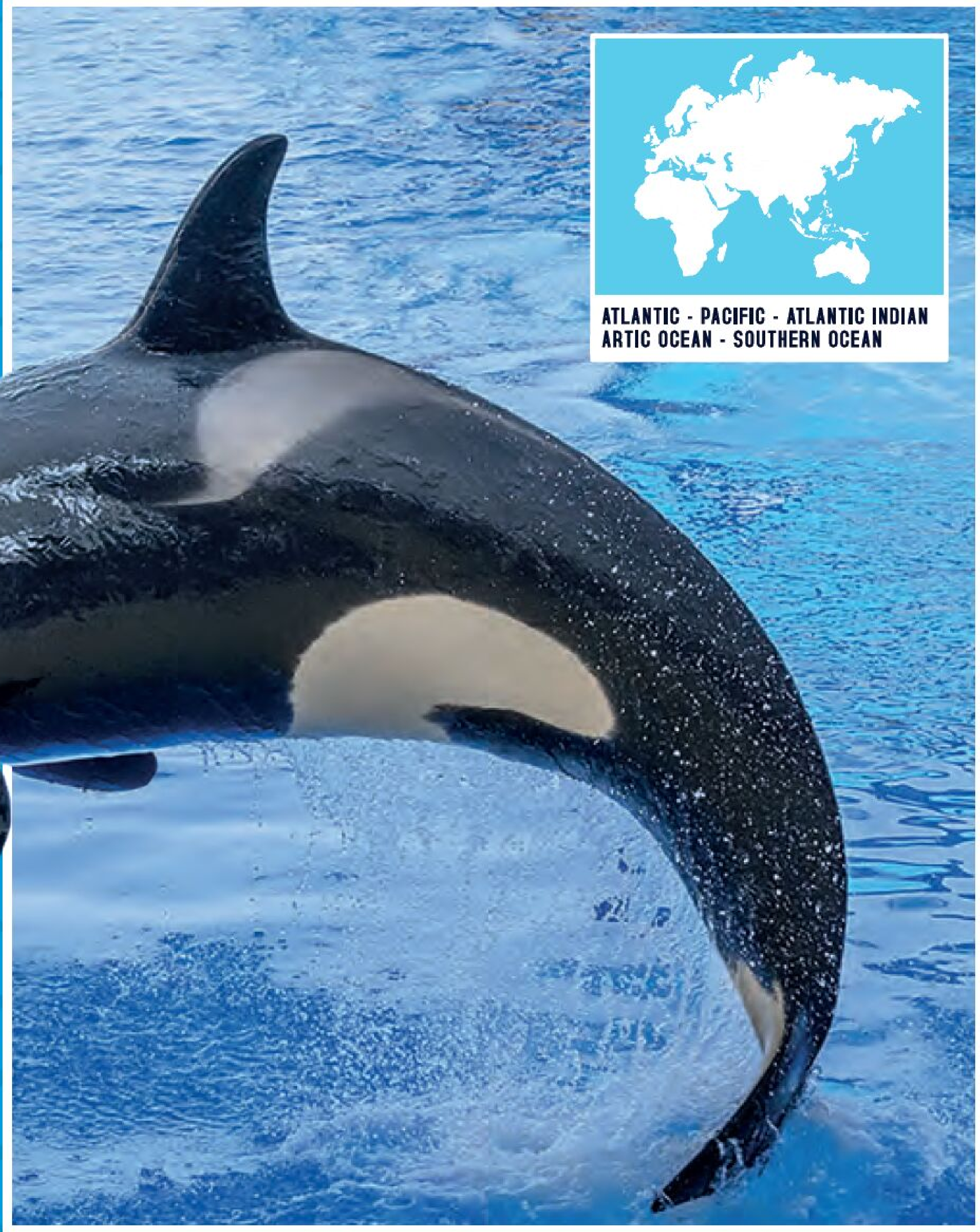
WEIGHT
60 – 140 kg

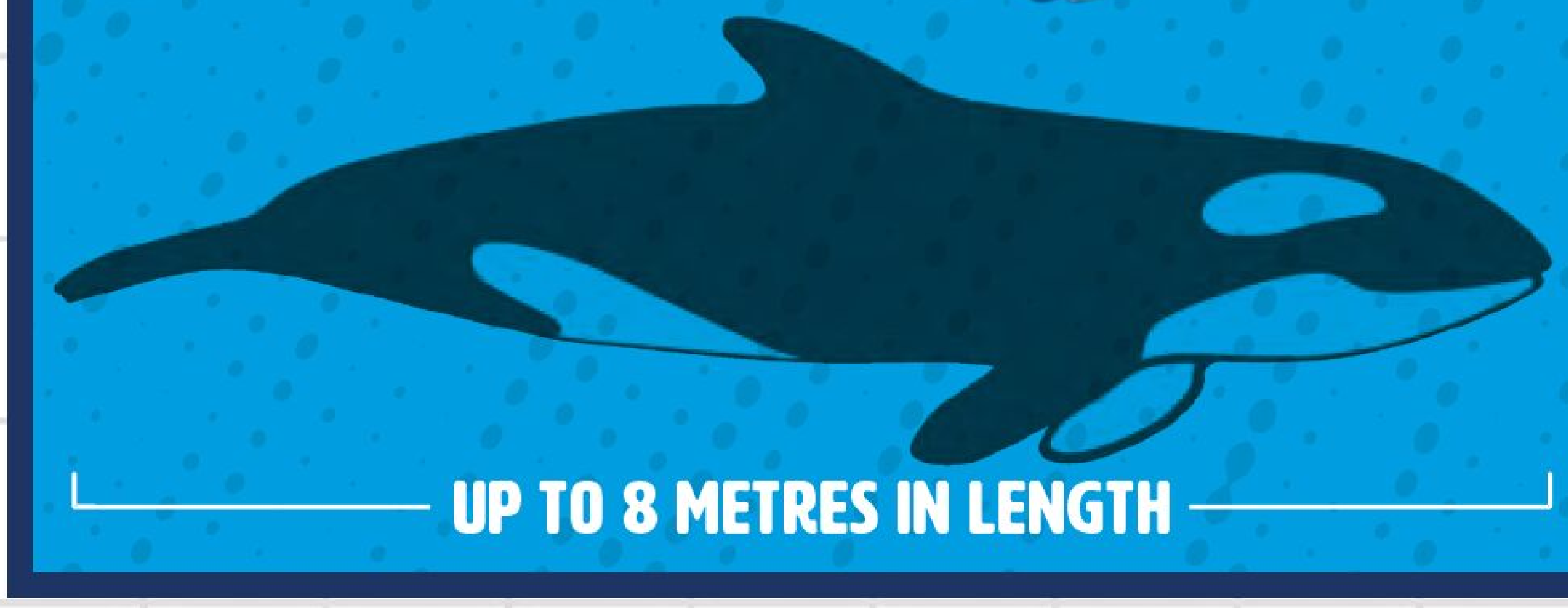
KILLER WHALE

THE ***LARGEST*** *DOLPHIN*

- Yes, really! Despite being called a 'killer whale', the orca is actually a dolphin and a powerful predator! Their intelligence and clever hunting tactics in pods (groups) of up to 40 orcas are like no other.

- To hunt this way, they use echolocation — this is when they send out sounds underwater that will gather information such as the location, size and shape of an object and reflect this back.

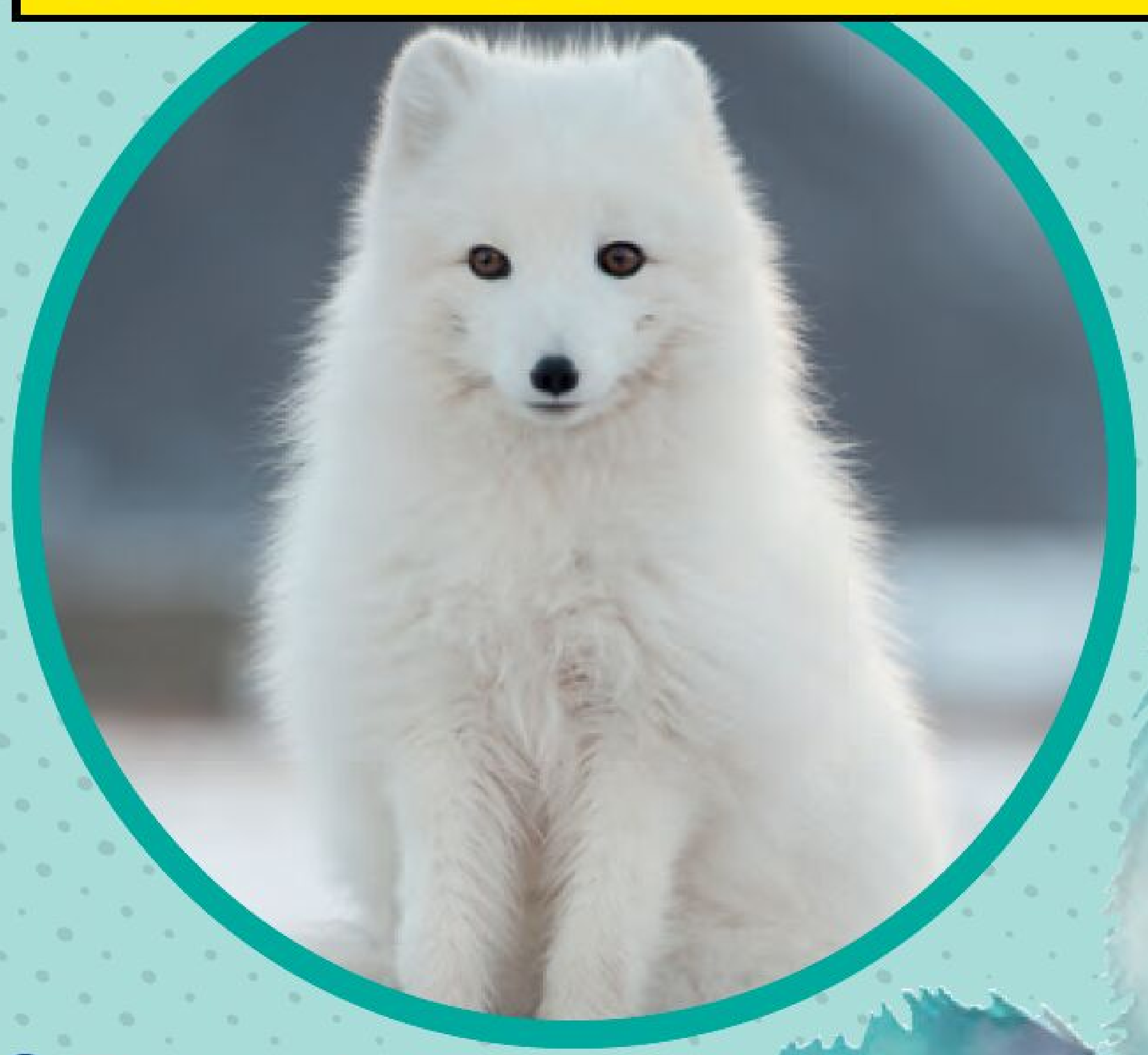

ATLANTIC - PACIFIC - ATLANTIC INDIAN
ARTIC OCEAN - SOUTHERN OCEAN


UP TO 8 METRES IN LENGTH

POWERS!

ARCTIC FOX

SUPER SURVIVOR



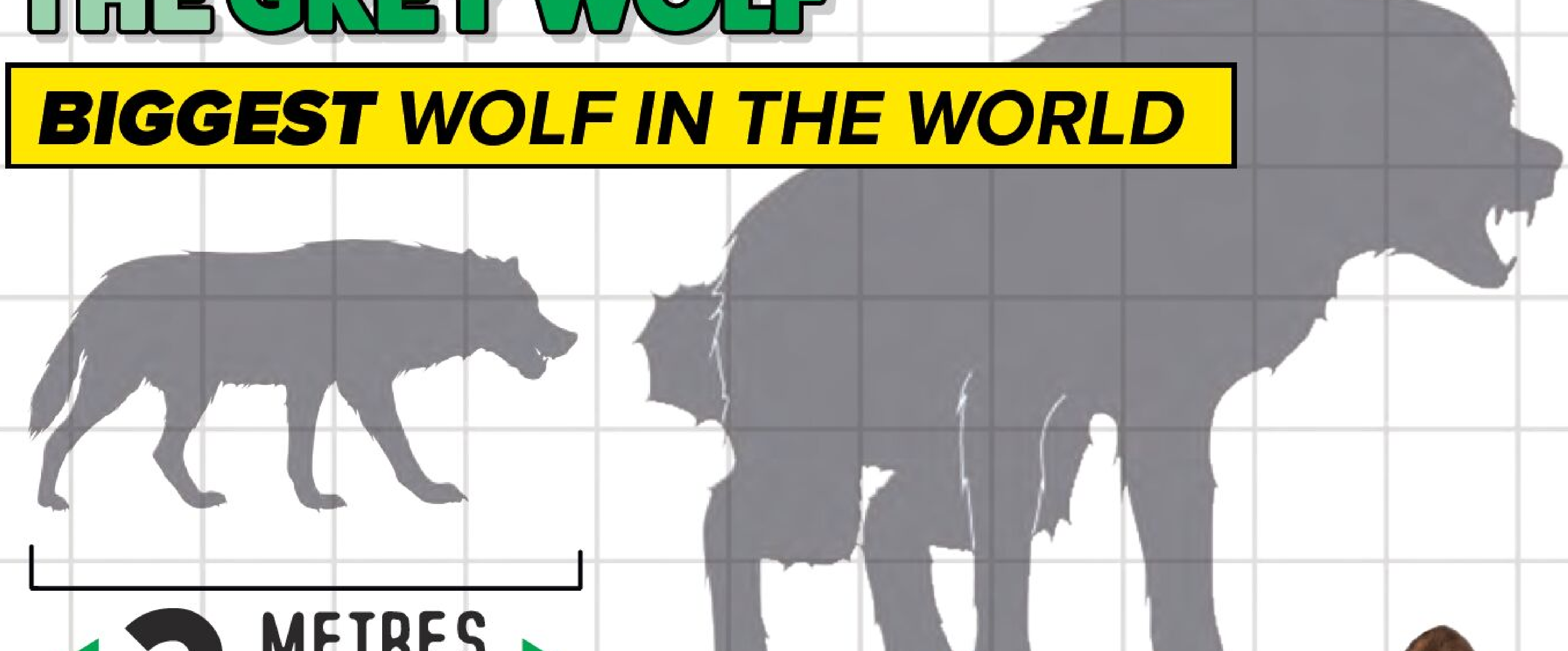
- These clever little foxes live in... you guessed it, the Arctic! To survive the brutal winters where the sun doesn't rise, their thick fur coat keeps them warm and their tail acts like a fluffy blanket.
- Their stunning white fur coats also help them camouflage in all that snow, and changes colour depending on the time of year.

ENDURES EXTREME COLD

CAN WITHSTAND TEMPERATURES AS LOW AS -70 CELSIUS!

THE GREY WOLF

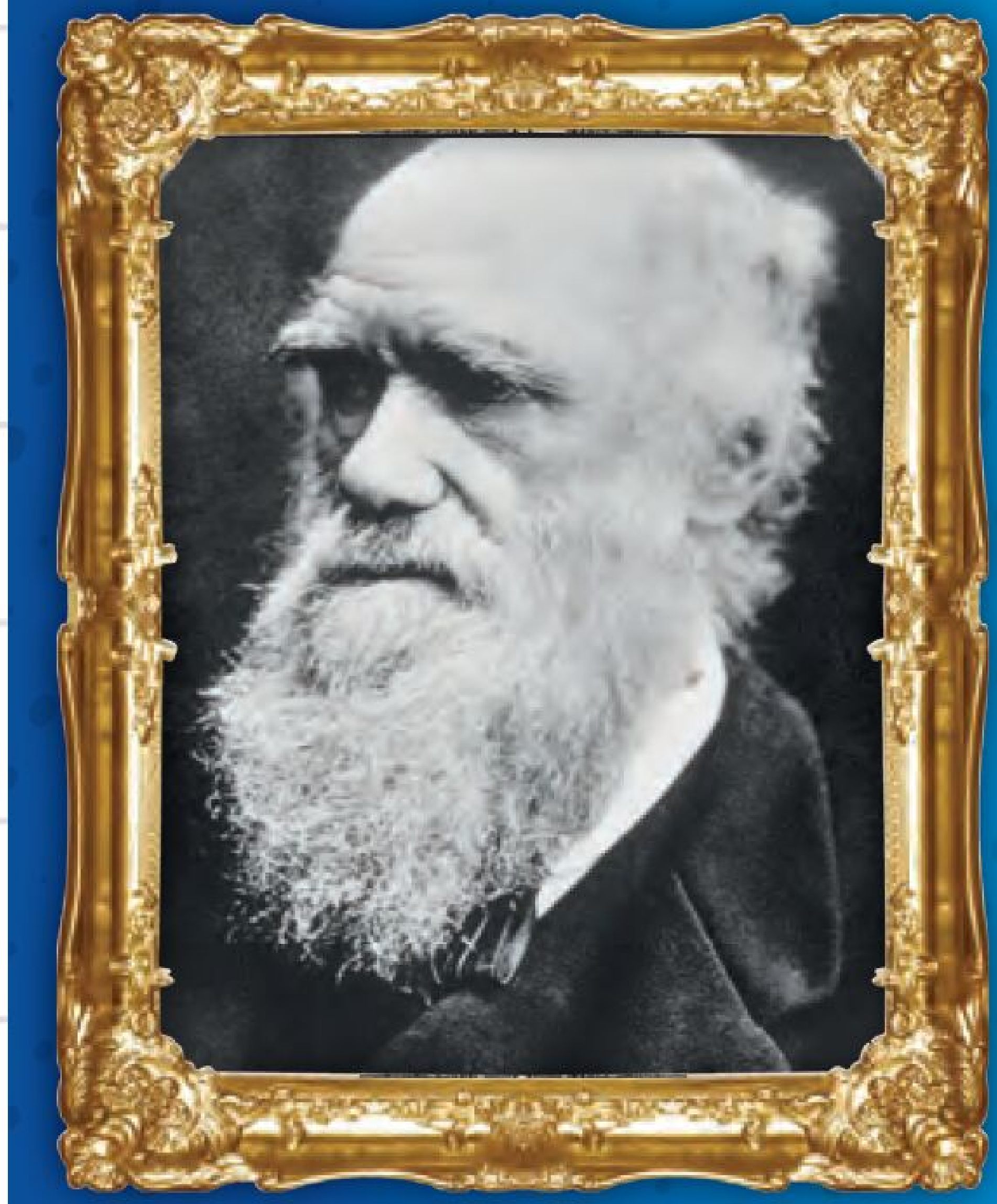
BIGGEST WOLF IN THE WORLD



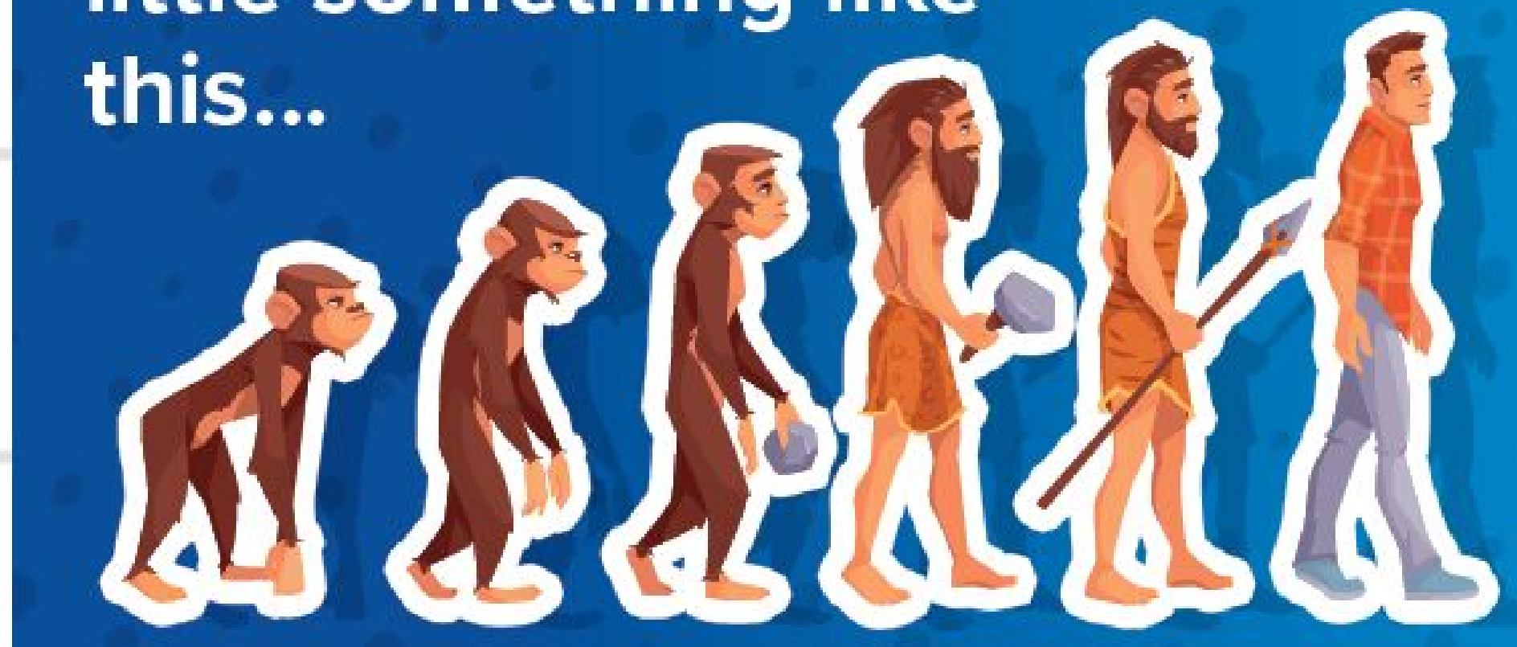
- Wolves have super-heightened senses. Their sense of smell is 100 times stronger than a human's and they can hear each other from miles away - especially when howling.
- Wolves live in packs, so communication is really important and they have a whole language of howls, growls, barks and bites.

WANT TO BE IN MY PACK?

SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST!



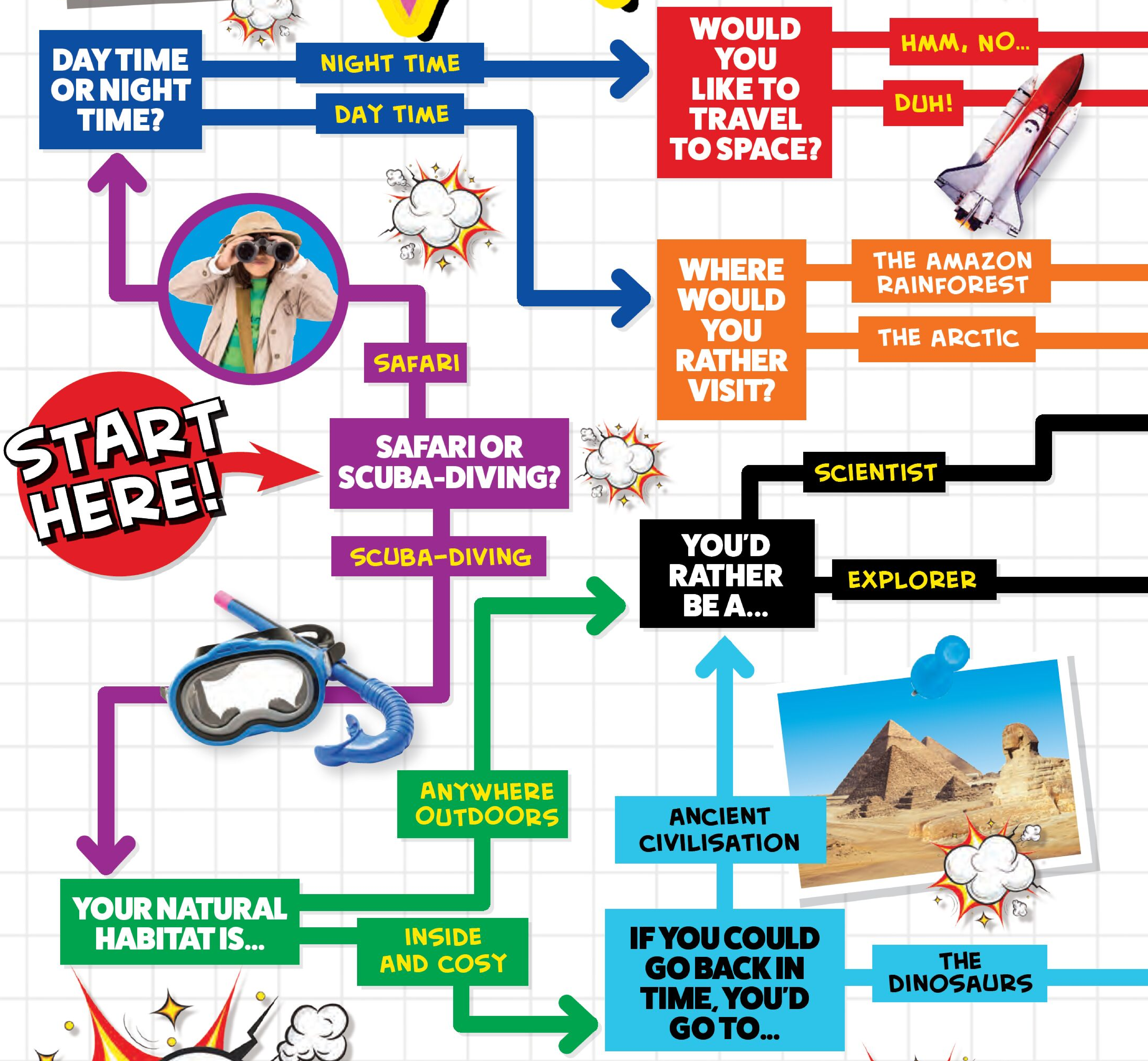
Ever heard of a bloke called **Charles Darwin**? We thought you might've. He was a scientist in the 1800s and helped come up with the theory of evolution, which explains a lot about adaptation and natural selection. It goes a little something like this...



1. An animal within a species randomly develops a characteristic that helps it survive better in its changing environment.
2. Because of this, it's more likely to survive than others in its species, so is more likely to reproduce and pass this characteristic to its offspring. This is called **natural selection** - survival of the fittest.
3. Over time and generations, the species evolves to a stronger version with this characteristic. This is the process of **evolution**, which can take thousands or millions of years. If a species doesn't adapt quick enough, then it becomes extinct.

WHAT'S YOUR ANIMAL SUPERPOWER?

ANIMALS ARE SUPERHEROES! WHICH ONE ARE YOU?



START HERE!

SAFARI OR SCUBA-DIVING?

SAFARI

DAY TIME OR NIGHT TIME?

NIGHT TIME

WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRAVEL TO SPACE?

HMM, NO...

DUH!

DAY TIME

WHERE WOULD YOU RATHER VISIT?

THE AMAZON RAINFOREST

THE ARCTIC

SCUBA-DIVING

YOUR NATURAL HABITAT IS...

ANYWHERE OUTDOORS

YOU'D RATHER BE A...

SCIENTIST

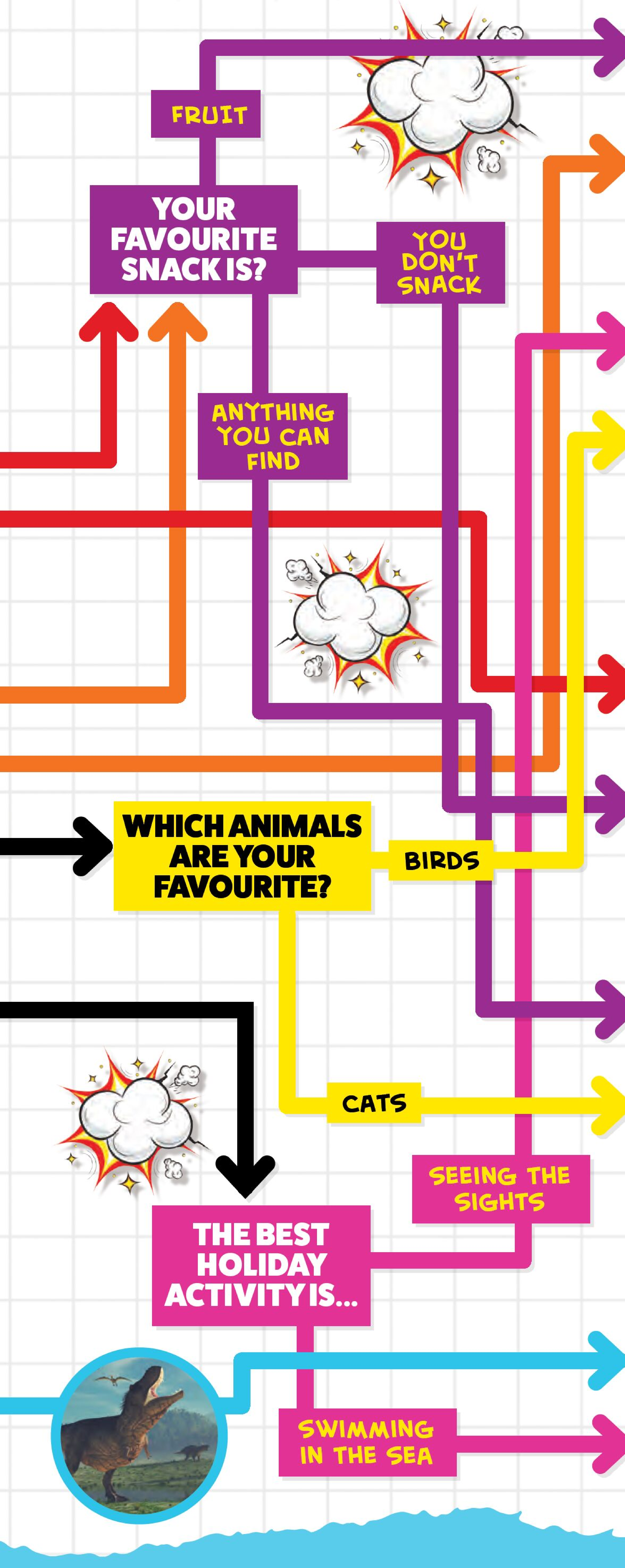
EXPLORER

INSIDE AND COSY

IF YOU COULD GO BACK IN TIME, YOU'D GO TO...

ANCIENT CIVILISATION

THE DINOSAURS



YOUR FAVOURITE SNACK IS?

FRUIT

ANYTHING YOU CAN FIND

YOU DON'T SNACK

WHICH ANIMALS ARE YOUR FAVOURITE?

BIRDS

CATS

THE BEST HOLIDAY ACTIVITY IS...

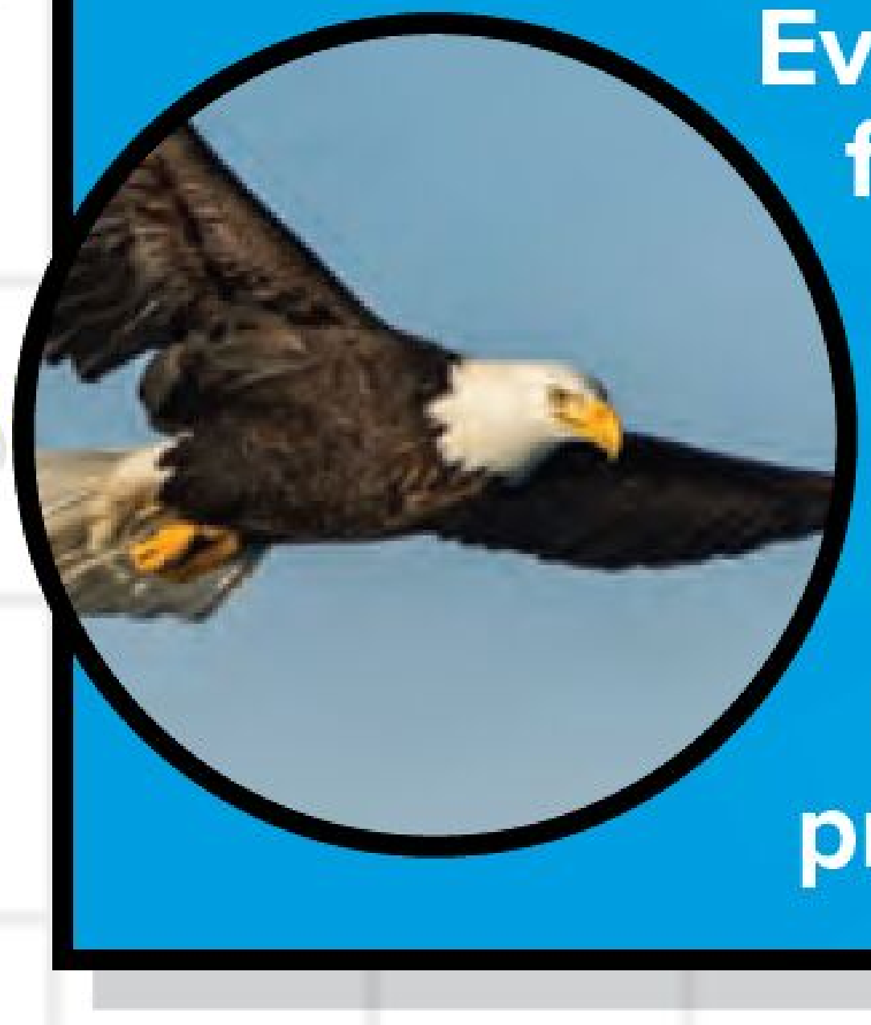
SEEING THE SIGHTS

SWIMMING IN THE SEA

SUPER HEARING: BATS!

Using echolocation, through a series of clicks and squeaks too high pitched for us mere humans to hear, they listen for the reflection of the sounds to map out their surroundings.

SUPER SIGHT: EAGLES!



Ever heard the saying ‘eagle-eyed’ for being able to spot things really well? There’s a reason for that! Birds of prey can see five times better than a human, they see colours more vividly and can see UV light to help them quickly spot prey to snatch up.

SUPER STRENGTH: ANTS!

Bet you didn’t see that one coming! They might not be the first to come to mind but compared to their tiny bodyweight, ants are insanely strong. Some can lift up to 50 times their bodyweight using their super-powerful mandible (jaws).

SUPER SPEED: CHEETAH!

Cheetahs are the fastest animal on land and can reach speeds as fast as a car on a motorway! They have multiple characteristics that super-turbo their speed, like large lungs, a long muscular tail for balance, a flexible spine and they’re lightweight. Blink and you’ll miss them!

SUPER SWIMMER: BLACK MARLIN!

One of the fastest fish on the planet! It’s been suggested they can reach speeds of up to 80mph. Their sharp bills let them slice through the water with ease. Good luck catching this fish!

MEET THE WORLD'S

WHAT A STINKY CREW.

LESSER ANTEATER

MMM... SMELLS LIKE VICTORY!

Would you believe the lesser anteater is one of the smelliest animals on our planet? Their rotten smell is actually their defence against predators! The bad smell means predators don't want to get too close and if they do, the lesser anteater has a special gland in its tail to release even more disgusting odours – a pretty good way to remain safe.

YOU CAN SMELL THEIR SCENT FROM 50 METRES AWAY – THAT'S THE LENGTH OF TWO SWIMMING POOLS!

RATING = SERIOUSLY STINKY

HOATZIN

These birds aren't known as stink birds for nothing! They live on a folivore diet which is partially responsible for their horrible stench. A folivore's diet means they eat only leaves which can be hard to digest. The stink bird also has a very slow digestive system which relies on bacteria to break down these leaves. This combination of diet and unique digestion method results in a disgusting smell.

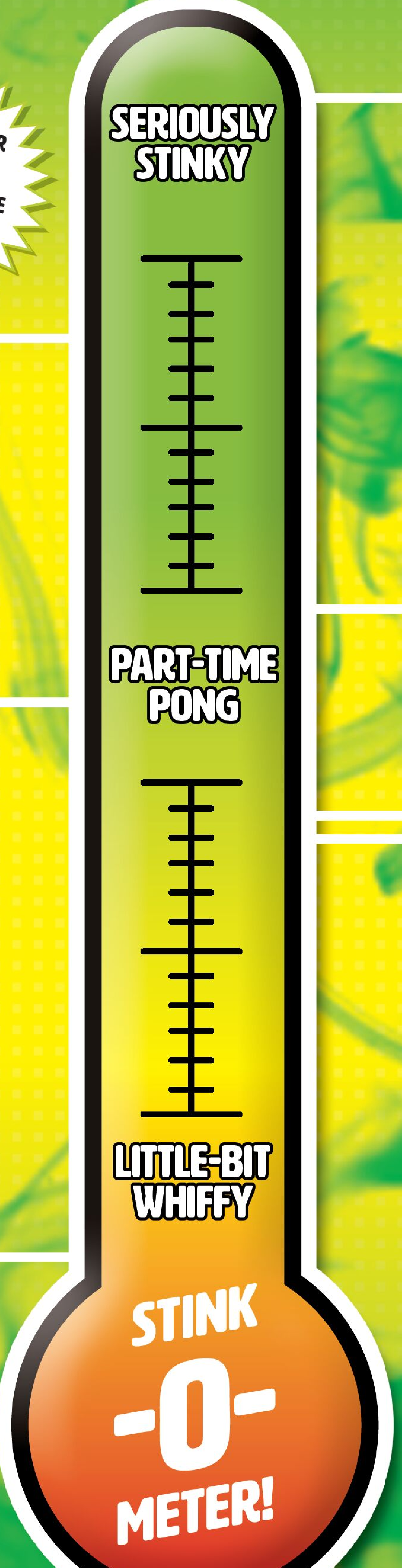
RATING = SMELLY NELLY

MUSK OX

These Arctic giants are constantly ponging. Unlike other smelly suspects on this list, the musk ox does not use smell as a protective measure against predators, they have horns for that! Instead, their huge shaggy coat makes it difficult to get properly clean after going to the toilet… it is a build-up of urine on their matted fur which creates a ghastly waft!

THE MUSK OX COAT CAN GROW UP TO 100CM LONG – ONE OF THE LONGEST OF ANY ANIMAL IN THE WORLD, NO WONDER IT GETS SMELLY!

RATING = REALLY ROTTEN



SMELLIEST ANIMALS!

TURKEY VULTURE

IN THE MORNINGS, THESE BONKERS BIRDS LIKE TO SUNBATHE!

These scavengers can smell food over two miles away but somehow they can't seem to smell their own stench! Not only do they barf on predators, they also poo on themselves to keep cool, making anyone that gets near wanna fly away!

RATING = PRETTY PONGY

WOLVERINE

Famously ferocious, not only will it attack intruders, it'll stink bomb them too! The whiff smells like rancid cheese and they also spray it on their leftover food so nobody else will eat it. Nicknamed the 'nasty cat', it's actually the largest member of the weasel family.

THEY MIGHT BE SMALL BUT THEY'LL FIGHT A WOLF OR BEAR FOR FOOD!
GET A WHIFF OF THIS!

RATING = SCARY AND STINKY

SKUNK

Don't be fooled by their cute appearance, skunks are famous for their stinky abilities. But did you know skunks don't smell all the time? They are slow-moving animals, so they are not able to outrun predators when under threat. Instead, they use the power of smell! Skunks release a foul odour which is made up of a horrible mixture of chemicals which they spray. Believe it or not, skunks don't like to use their weapon of stink too regularly. Usually, they produce enough for 5-6 sprays but once they've sprayed, they can take over a week to replenish their supply.

A SKUNK'S SMELL HAS BEEN COMPARED TO A COMBINATION OF ROTTEN EGGS, GARLIC AND BURNT RUBBER - YUCK!

RATING = KING OF THE STINK

STRIPED POLECAT

These little stinkers are also known as the African skunk! Although they look and act incredibly similarly to a skunk, they are not actually related. The striped polecat releases a vile smell through a gland in its tail when under threat. Incredibly, this smell can spread almost one kilometre, even further than a skunk's stench. Their smell is so strong it can ward off huge predators such as lions!

RATING = IMPRESSIVE STENCH

PARACHUTING BEAVERS!

IT'S RAINING... BEAVERS? IN 1948 IDAHO, USA, IT REALLY WAS!

DID YOU KNOW THAT BEAVERS CAN HELP ESTABLISH WETLANDS, CREATE A HABITAT FOR OTHER SPECIES AND ALSO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY FOR HUMANS? IT SOUNDS GREAT, RIGHT? BUT BACK IN 1948, THE HUGE BEAVER POPULATION WAS CAUSING PROBLEMS IN AREAS OF IDAHO.

Some regions were overrun with beavers causing mayhem and damaging the land with their dams. In other regions, water supplies were poor and could do with some beaver help!

The Fish and Game department came up with a plan to solve the beaver problem – to move some of them to less populated areas and help them thrive!

A plan had been hatched, but there were still problems to overcome. The beavers would need to be boxed up and transported long distances by truck and horse, and kept cool and constantly watered. The journey would have been hot, long and distressing for the animals who had a habit of becoming aggressive and refusing to eat when they were stressed. Many would not have survived the journey.

ELMO W. HETER, an employee of Idaho Fish and Game, had an idea - tying boxes of beavers to parachutes left over from the war, allowing them to float down from transport planes to safety! He got to work and created a special box that could hold two beavers and release when it hit the ground, giving its passengers their freedom! On August 14th, 1948, 76 beavers in boxes floated to a new life in the wilderness, with only one unfortunate casualty. The plan had succeeded and saved the beavers from being culled or making a longer, likely more dangerous trip.

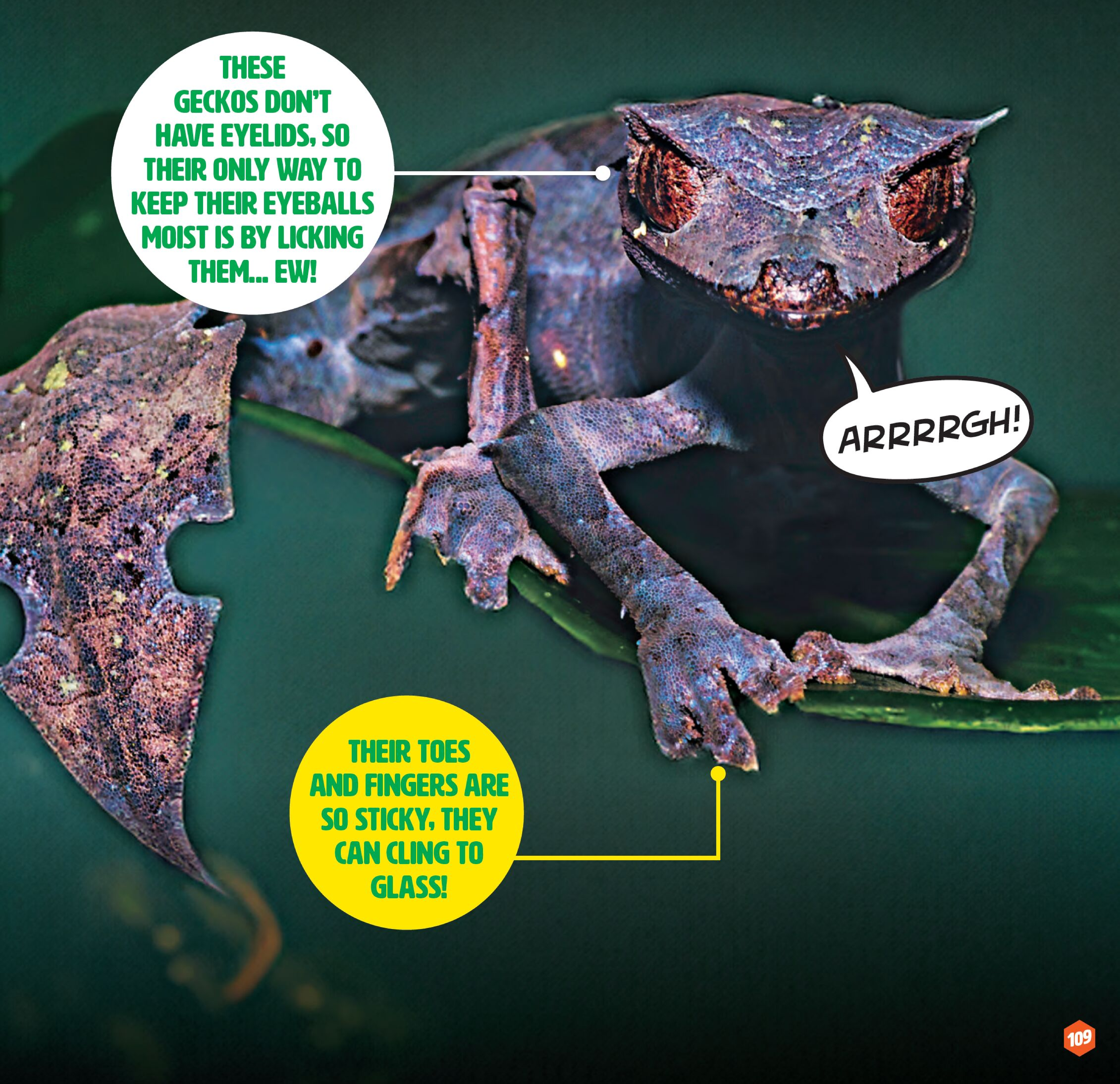
Thankfully nowadays animals can be transported by plane without needing to parachute out!

WOW! IT REALLY EXISTS!

Meet the spooky SATANIC LEAF-TAILED GECKO!

■ Never challenge the satanic leaf-tailed gecko to a game of hide-and-seek – you wouldn't stand a chance! These crafty creatures can flatten their bodies to hide their shadow and have evolved to mimic decaying leaves hanging from branches! They're very hard to catch too, moving through trees at up to 30mph.

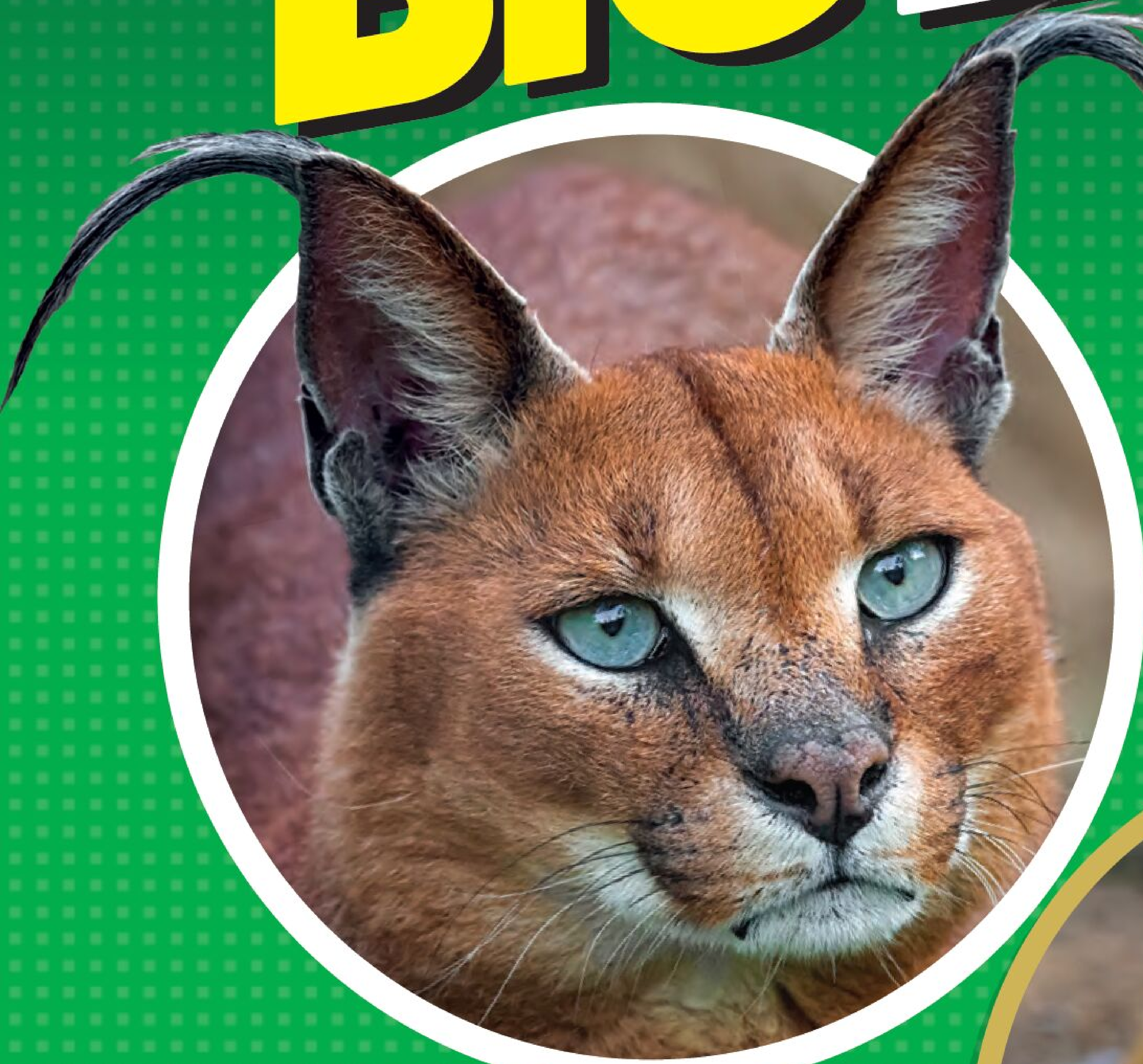
Found in Madagascar, the satanic leaf-tailed gecko is a carnivore that eats flies, worms, snails and spiders. But they have predators too – owls, eagles, rats and snakes hunt them. When cornered, they can detach and wriggle their tail to distract their enemy to make a quick getaway. If that fails, they open their mouth wide to expose their bright-red mouth and scream!



THESE GECKOS DON'T HAVE EYELIDS, SO THEIR ONLY WAY TO KEEP THEIR EYEBALLS MOIST IS BY LICKING THEM... EW!

THEIR TOES AND FINGERS ARE SO STICKY, THEY CAN CLING TO GLASS!

BONKERS BIG EARS!



RABBIT

It might not surprise you that rabbits have excellent hearing! Their big ears can rotate individually to help them monitor their environment and catch sound from any direction.

FENNEC FOX

The world's smallest fox, the fennec, has the largest ears of any member of the canid family, which refers to species such as dogs, wolves, foxes and coyotes. These little desert dwellers use their big ears to listen out for prey, and to keep cool too!

CARACAL

Caracal ears contain over 20 muscles each, which swivel them around like a satellite to detect their prey. Talk about good reception! Their hairy tufts can amplify sound going into the ear.

THE AFRICAN ELEPHANT'S EARS CAN GROW OVER A METRE LONG AND A METRE WIDE. THAT'S A WHOLE LOTTA LOBE!

ELEPHANT

You know what's cool? An elephant's ears! These huge ears are filled with thousands of blood vessels which keep the elephant cool by allowing excess body heat to escape.

BAT

The grey long-eared bat has ears as long as its body to help them navigate. Their ears are so large, they have to tuck them in to sleep, which we're assuming is the bat equivalent of a good set of earplugs!

I CAN EAR YOU, THERE'S NO NEED TO OWL!

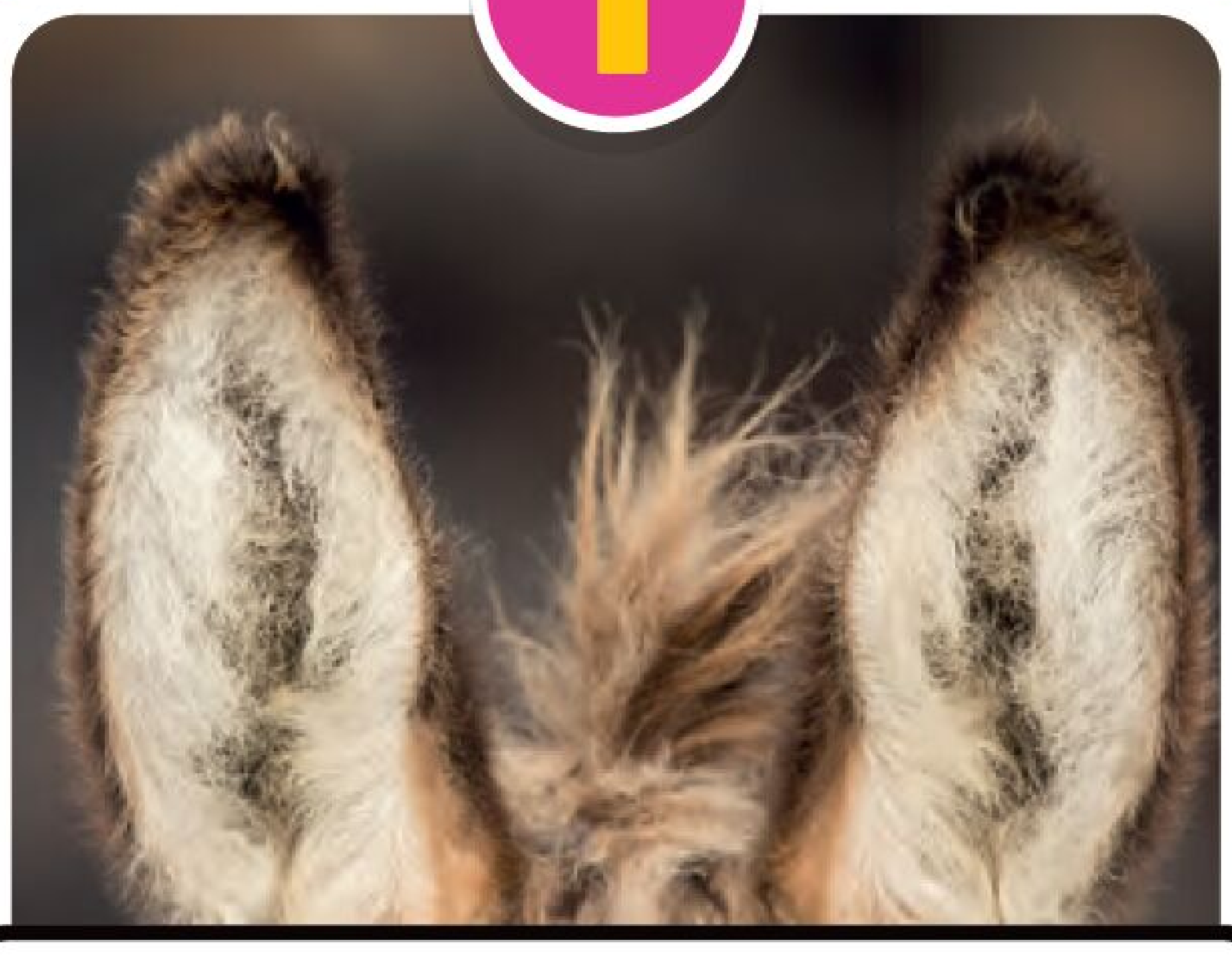
OWL

Owls have extremely sensitive hearing! The tufts on their head are just feathers, their ears are in a similar position to we humans, on the side of their head... and just like us they have TWOO!

WHAT'S ALL THIS EAR?

CAN YOU GUESS WHICH ANIMALS THESE EARS BELONG TO?

1



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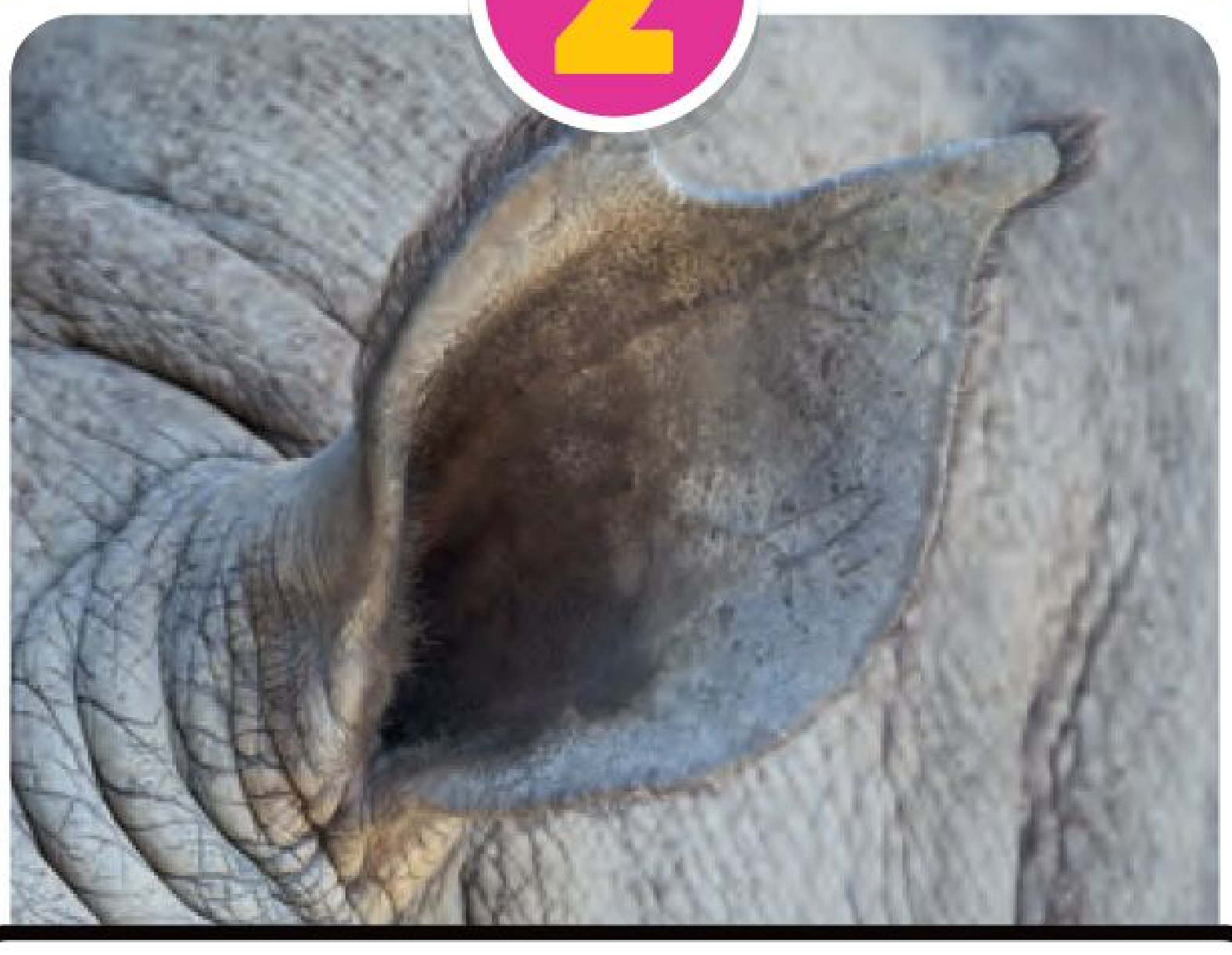

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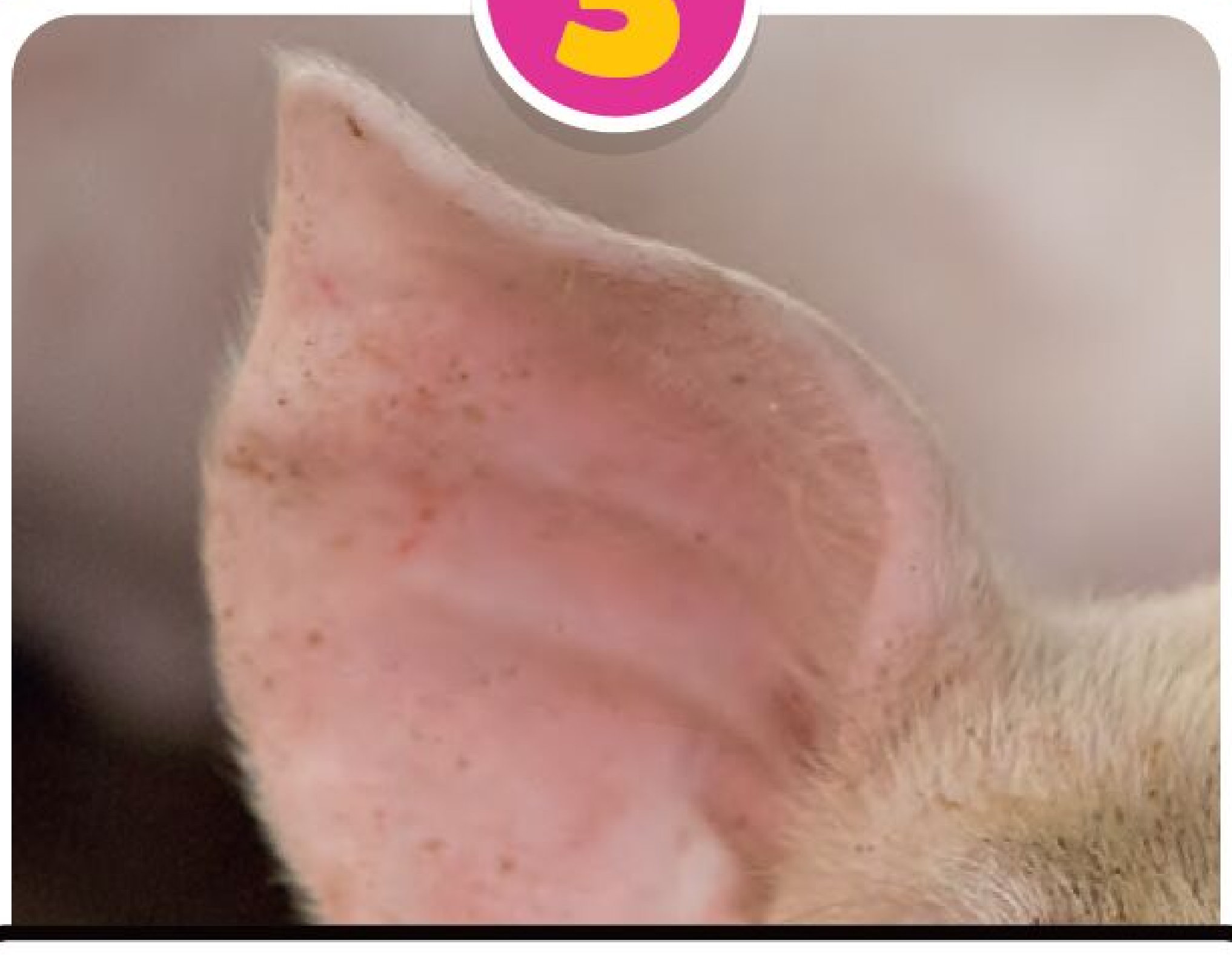

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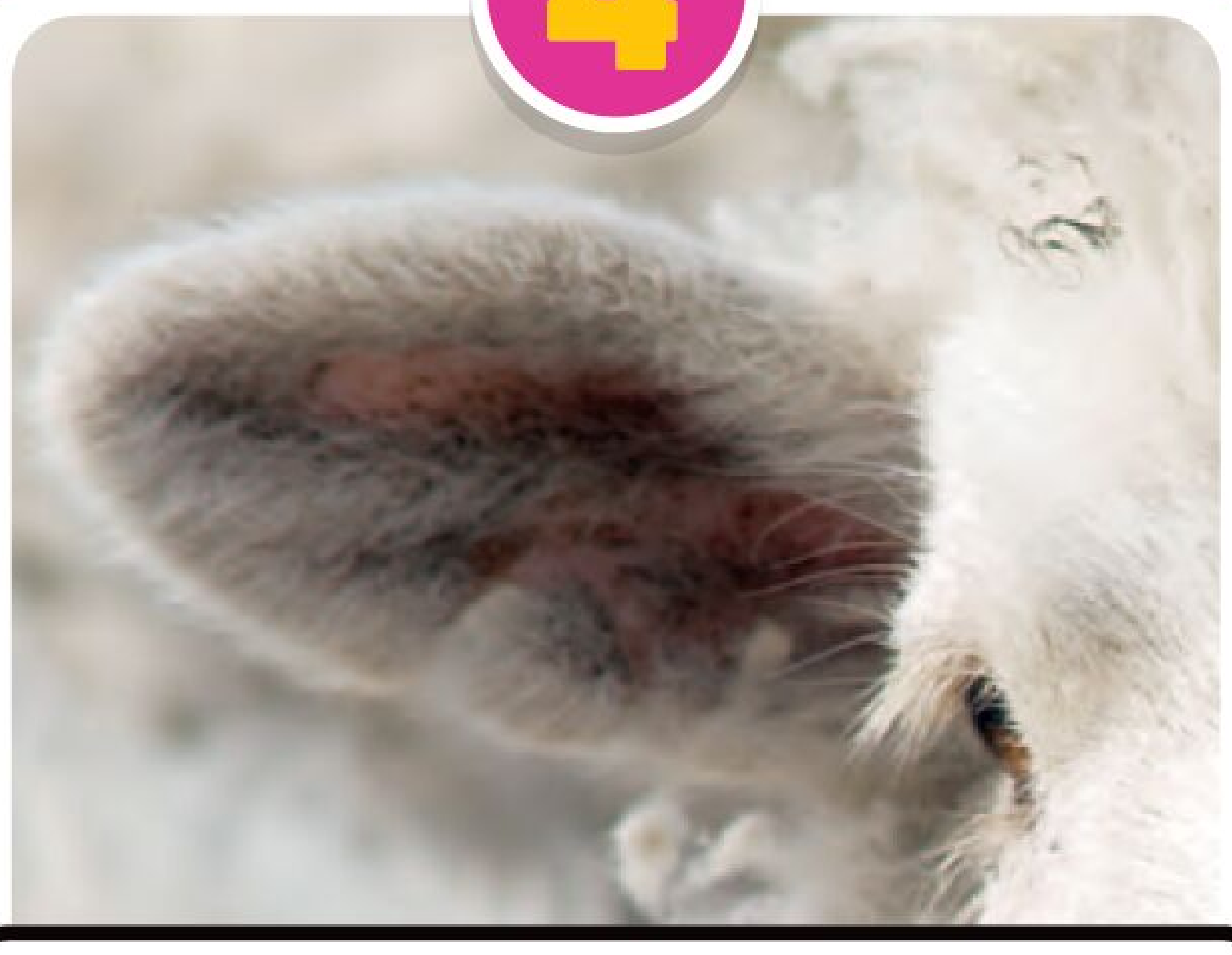

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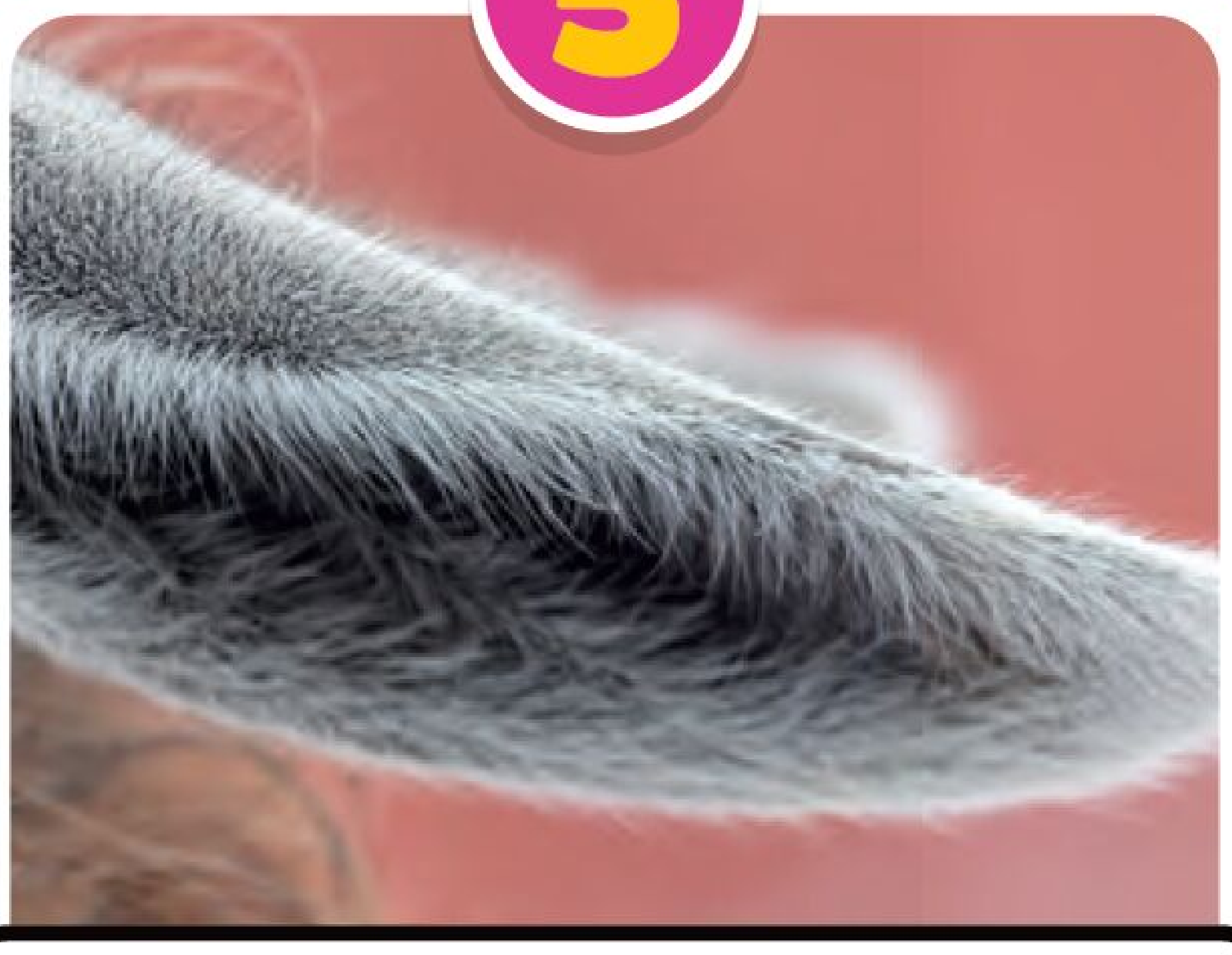

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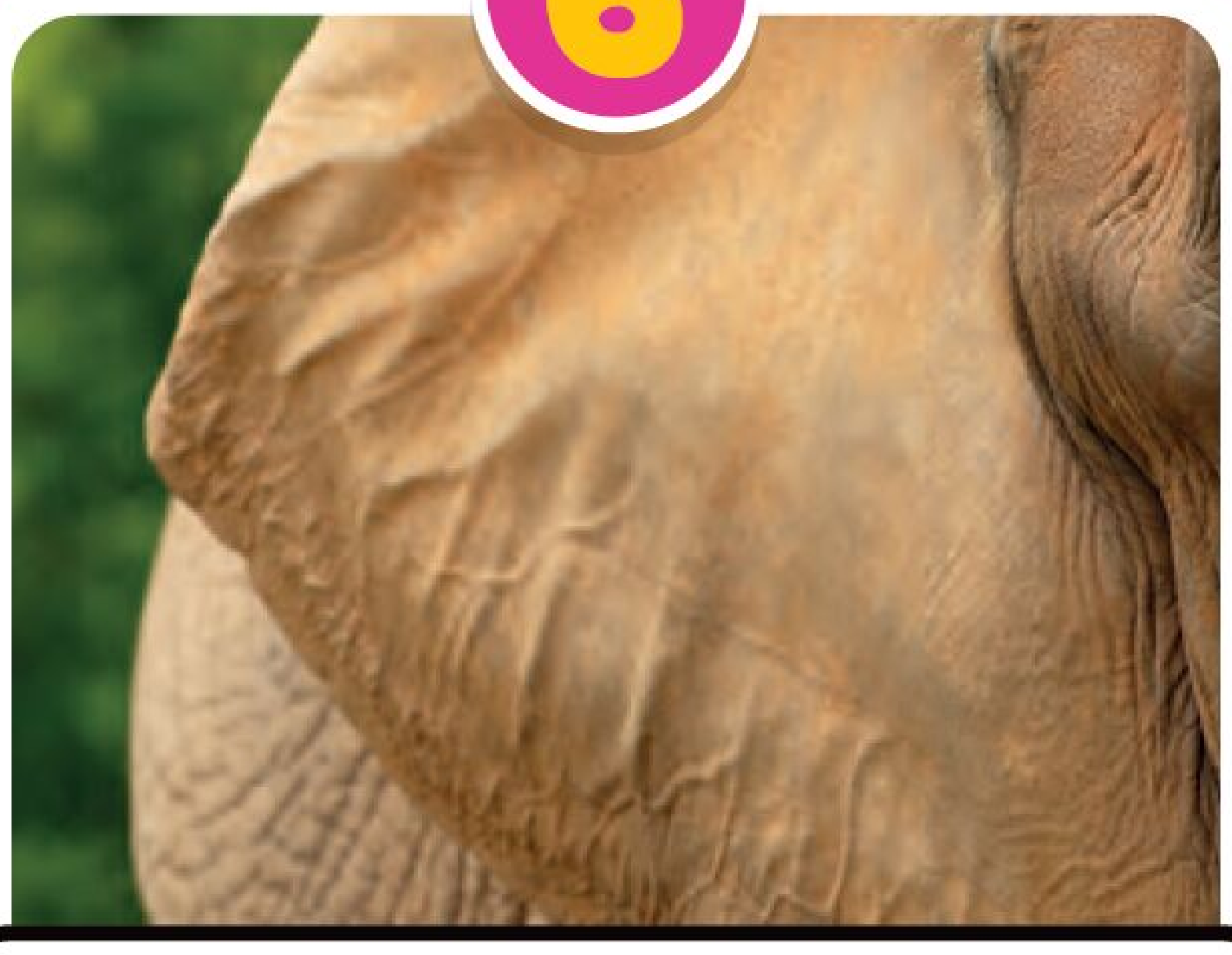

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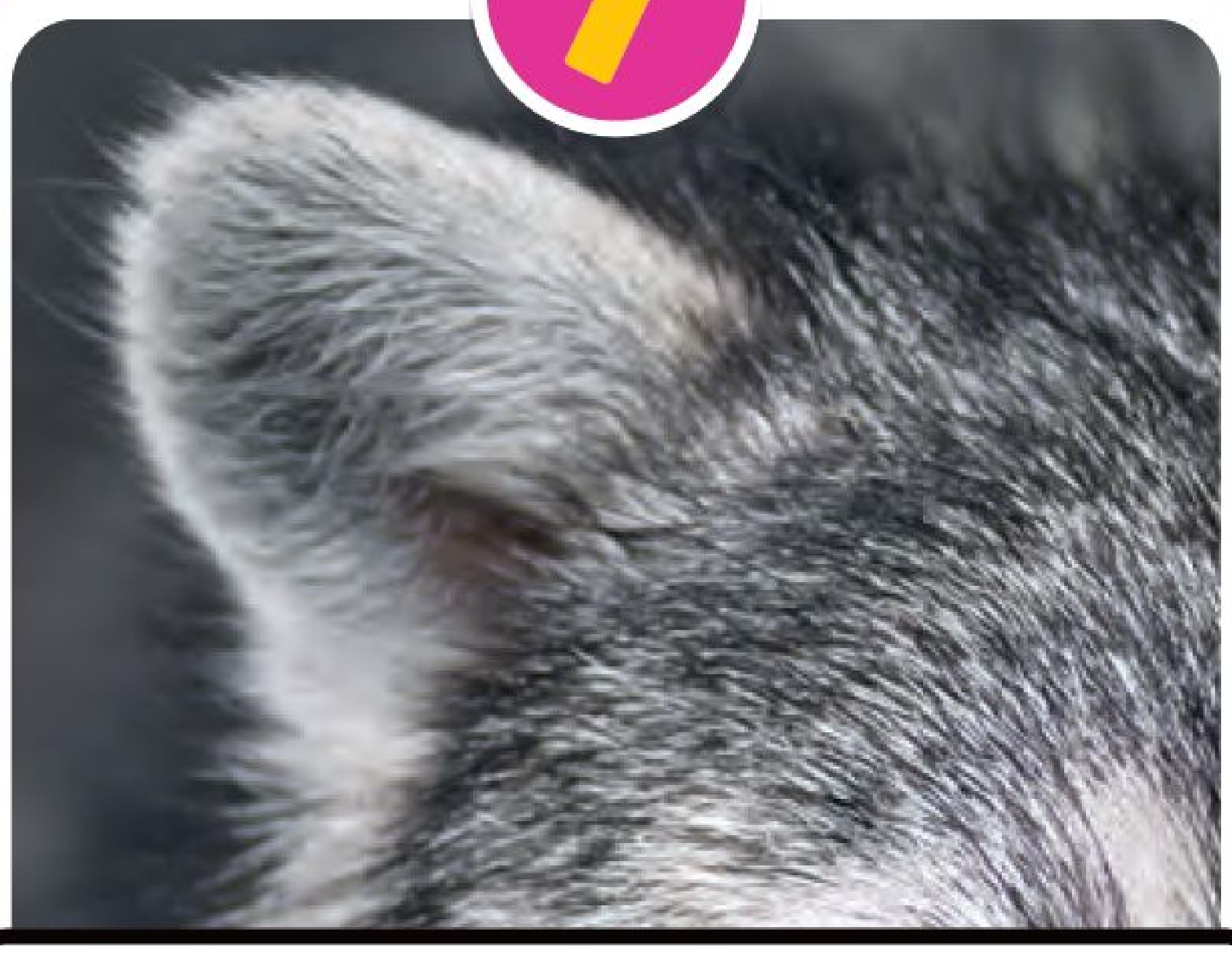

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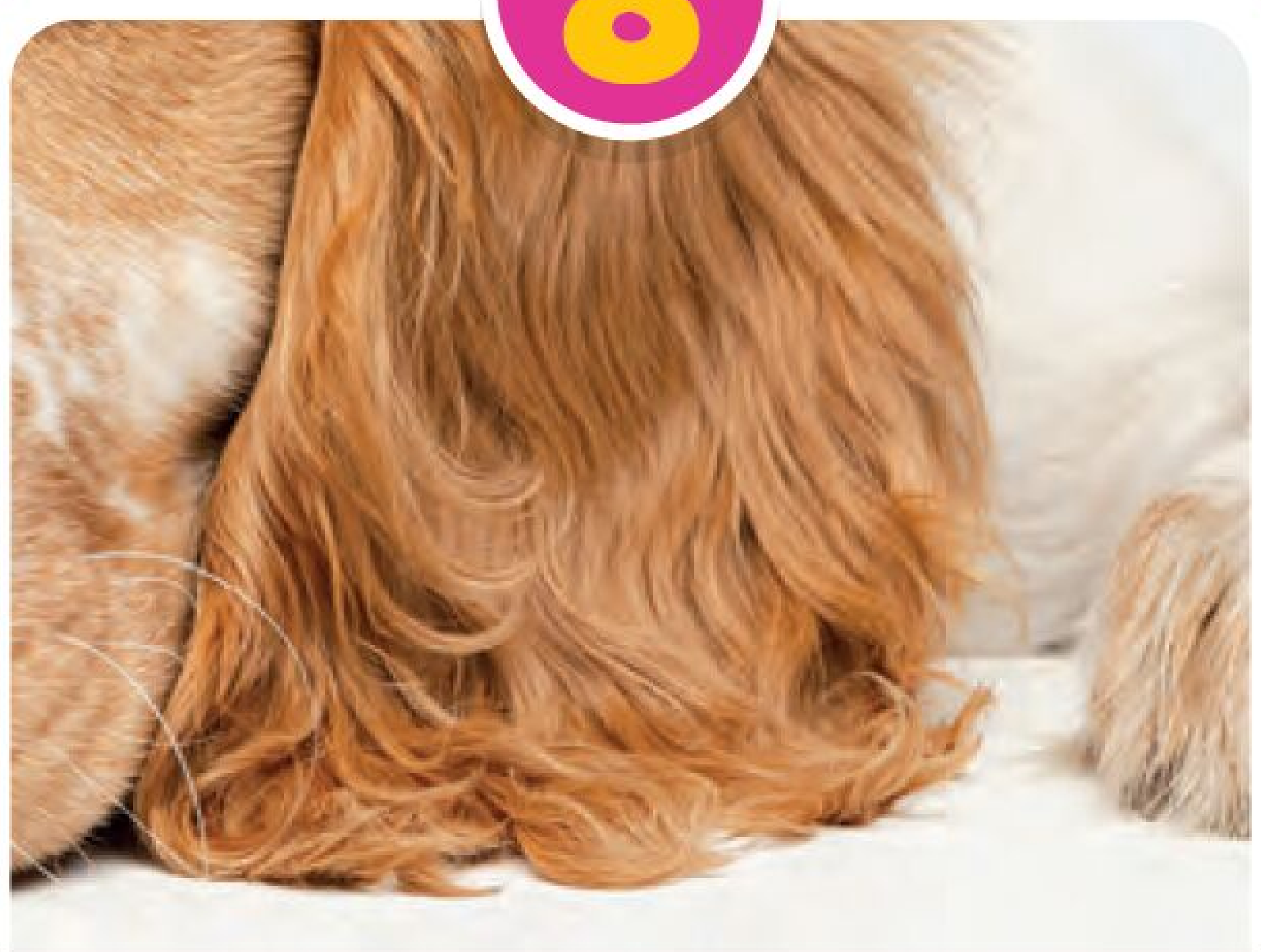

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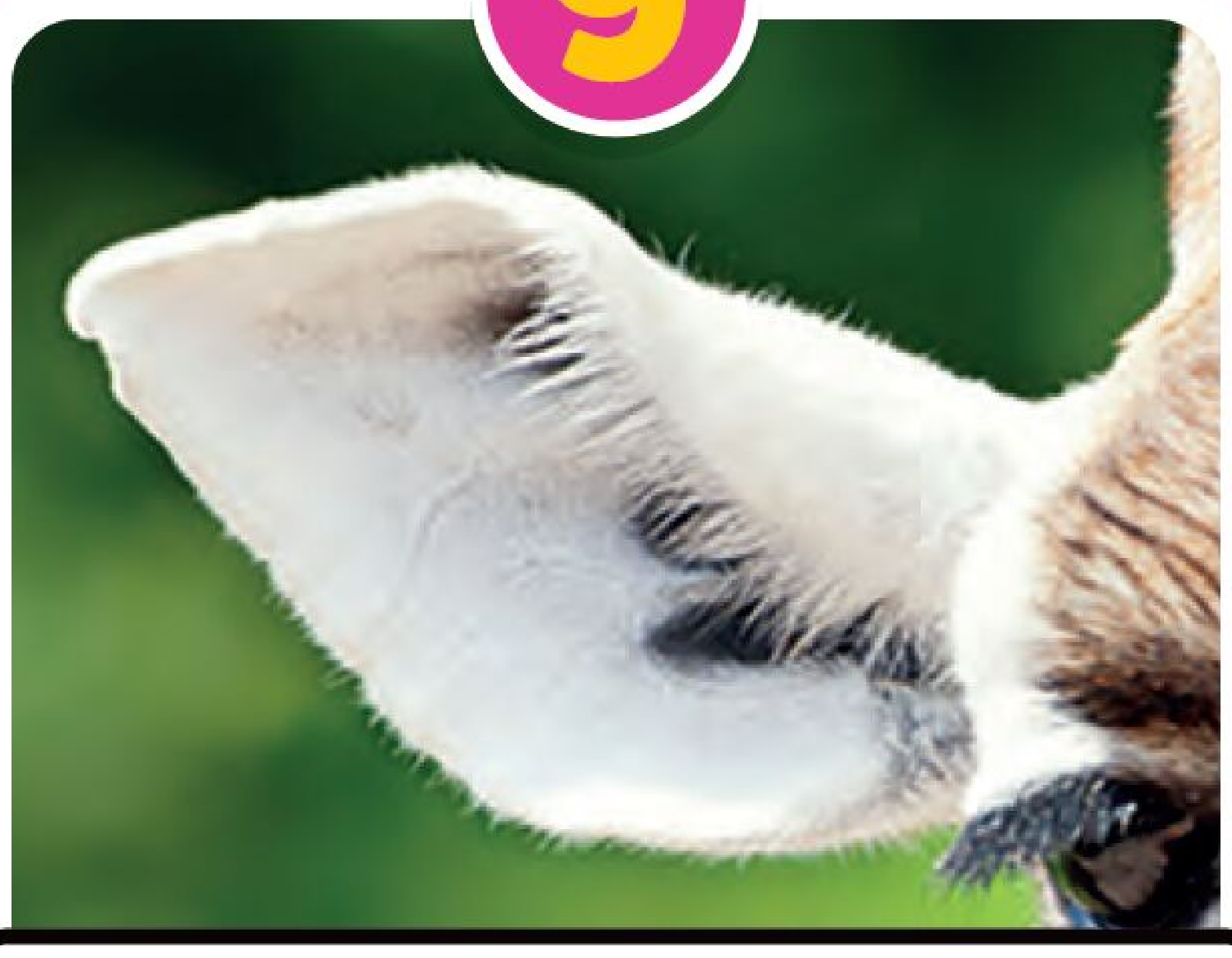

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DID YOU KNOW? IN THE DESERT, DONKEYS CAN HEAR EACH OTHER UP TO 60 MILES AWAY!

ANSWERS:
1) Donkey **2)** Rhino **3)** Pig **4)** Sheep **5)** Llama
6) Elephant **7)** Raccoon **8)** Dog **9)** Giraffe

18 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW!

BRUSH UP ON YOUR ANIMAL KNOWLEDGE WITH THESE AMAZING FACTS!

I'M ON HOLIDAY!

1

ANY **PANDA** YOU SEE IN A ZOO IS JUST ON LOAN FROM CHINA!

2

Tigers don't just have stripes on their fur - it's on their skin too!

3

IT IS PHYSICALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR **PIGS** TO LOOK UP TO THE SKY.

4

Butterflies **taste** with their feet.

8

Catfish are the only animals with an odd amount of whiskers.

5

COWS CAN HAVE BEST FRIENDS. AWWW!

6

HAMSTERS **ARE COLOUR BLIND.**

7

The **praying mantis** can swivel its head 180 degrees! Talk about having eyes in the back of your head!

9

WHEN **RABBITS** JUMP WITH EXCITEMENT IT'S CALLED A BINKY.

10

A group of **pugs** is called a grumble.

11

Dolphins can recognise their own reflection in a mirror.

I SMELL FISHIES...

12 Seals' whiskers can sense fish swimming up to 180 metres away!

13 **NARWHALS** CHANGE COLOUR AS THEY AGE.

14

Sheep can't roll over and end up stuck if they lie on their back!

15

Squirrels can't burp! And neither can any other rodent!

16 A MALE **DUCK** IS CALLED A DRAKE!

17

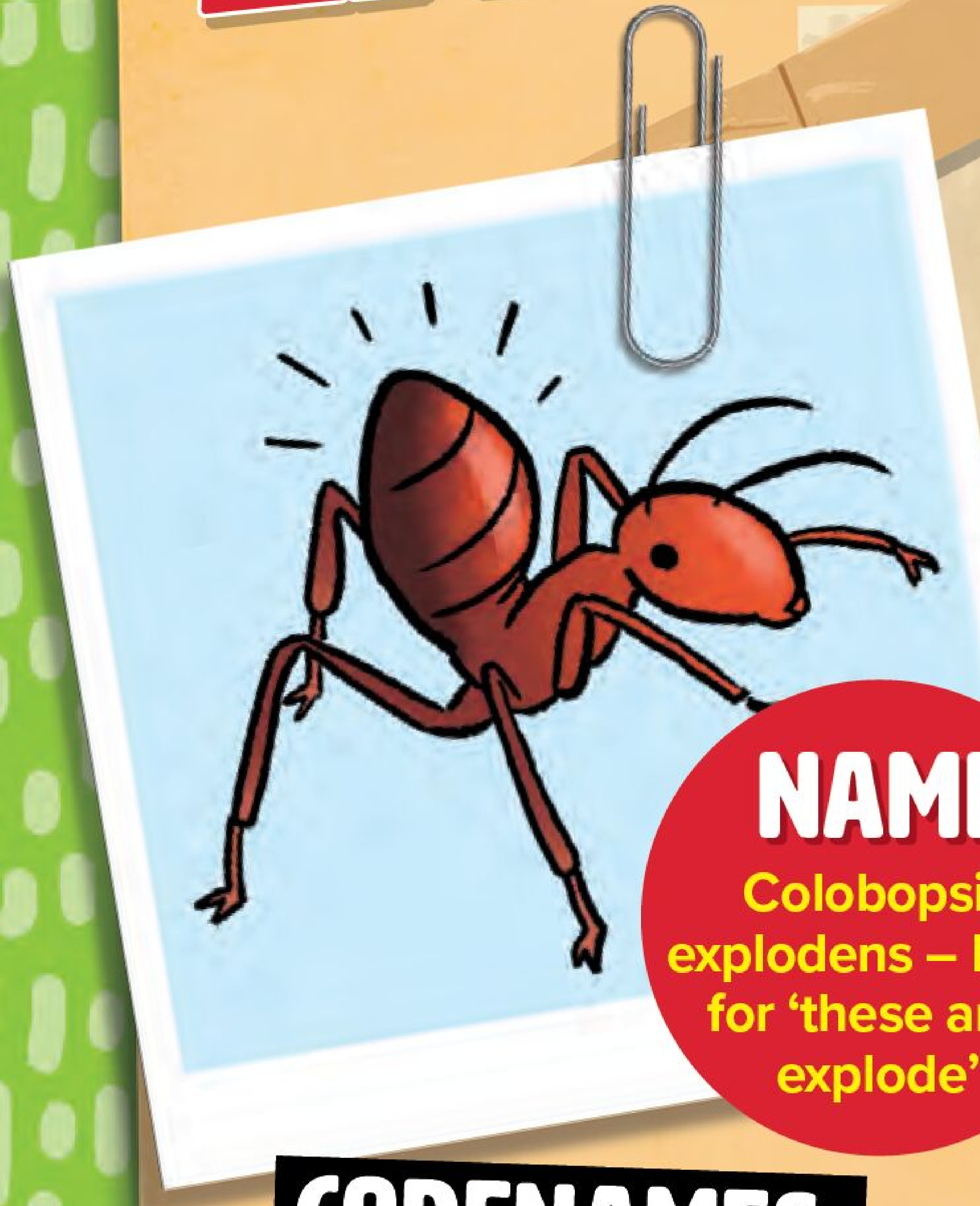
Giraffes have no vocal cords.

18 MOST **SLOTHS** ONLY GO TO THE TOILET ONCE A WEEK.

TOP SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE PROFILE

EXPLODING ANTS



DESCRIPTION:

- ✓ SMALLER THAN NORMAL SOLDIER ANTS.
- ✓ REDDISH-BROWN COLOUR.
- ✓ LACKS LARGE MANDIBLES AND IS UNABLE TO STING.
- ✓ ITS BODY IS FILLED WITH GLANDULAR SACS CONTAINING A STICKY YELLOW LIQUID WHICH SMELLS LIKE CURRY POWDER.

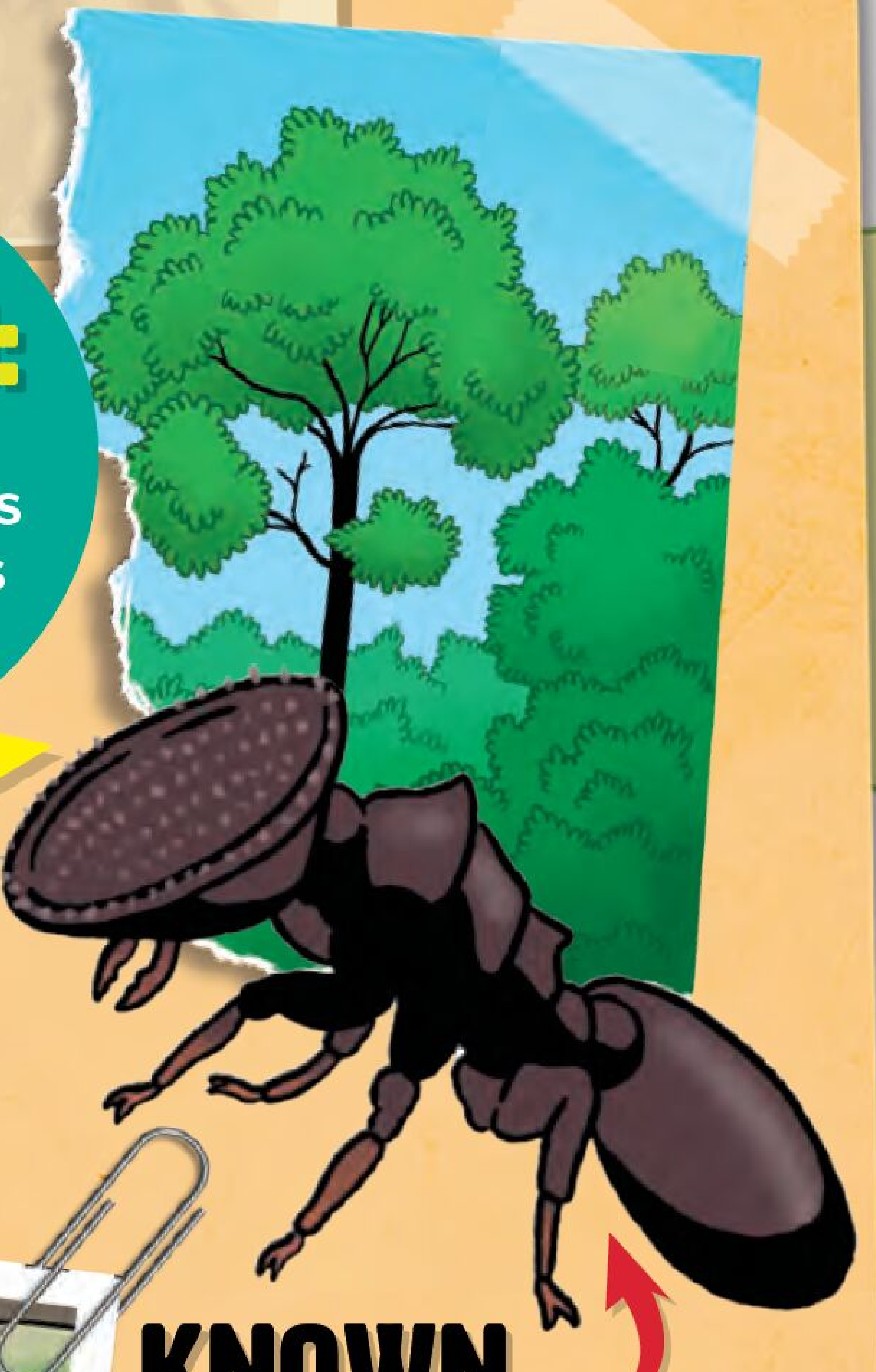
MEET THE ANTS THAT ACT LIKE SECRET AGENTS! THEIR MISSION, IF THEY CHOOSE TO ACCEPT IT, IS TO PROTECT THEIR COLONY AT ALL COSTS. THESE ANTS WILL SELF-DESTRUCT IN FIVE, FOUR, THREE, TWO...

NAME:

Colobopsis explodens – Latin for 'these ants explode'

LOCATION:

In the leafy canopies of trees up to 60 metres tall in Borneo.

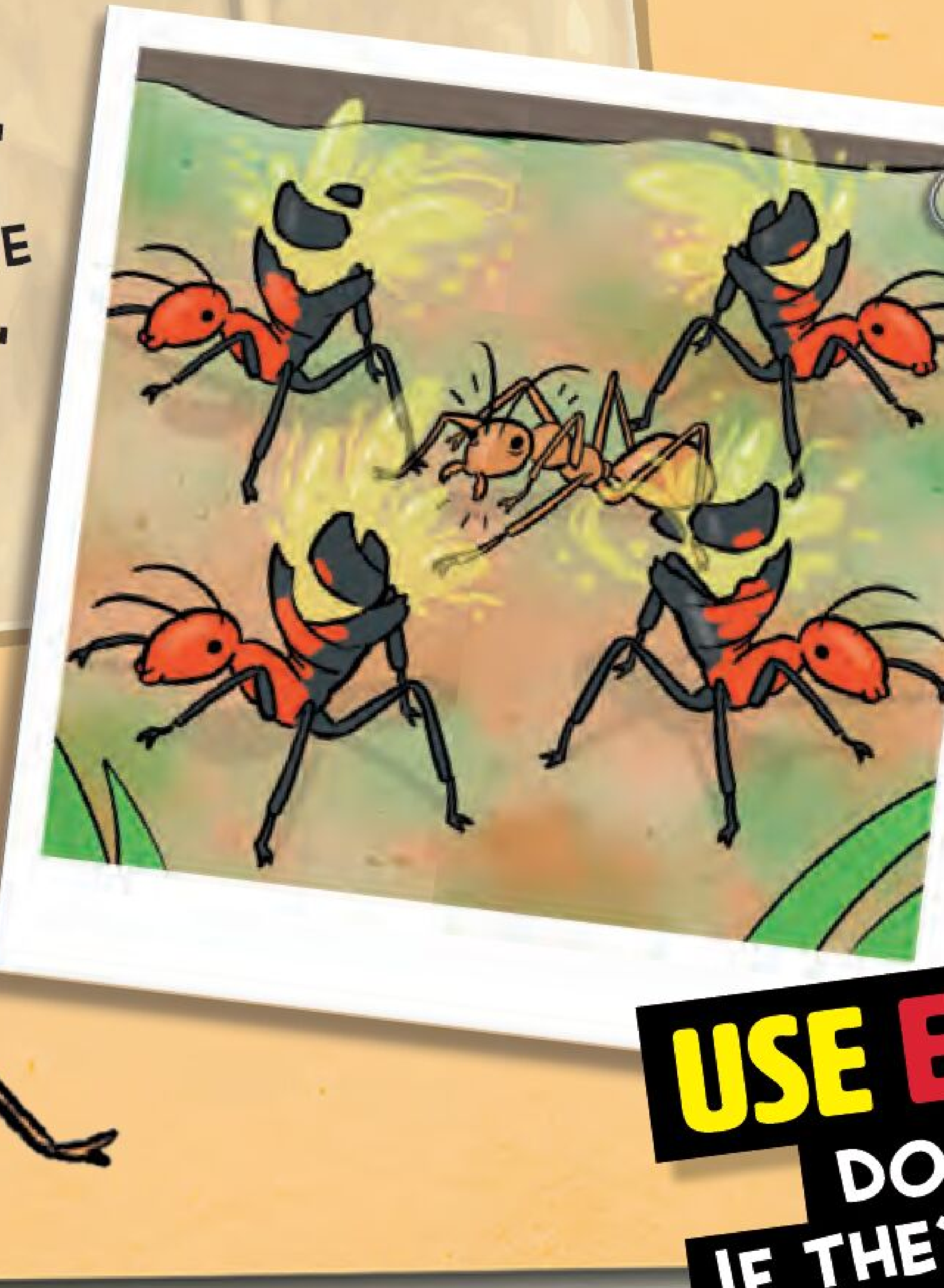


CODENAMES:

YELLOW GOO OR THE EXPLODING ANT

ABILITIES:

- ✓ ACT AS DECOYS WHEN ENEMIES ATTACK. RUN IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION TO DIVERT PREDATORS FROM THE COLONY.
- ✓ SURROUND THE WOULD-BE ATTACKER, POINT THEIR BUTTS AT THEM AND EXPLODE A STICKY SUBSTANCE, IMMOBILISING THE BADDIE.



KNOWN ASSOCIATES:

THE DOORKEEPERS

Large soldier ants in the colony that use their enlarged heads to barricade the entrance to their HQ to avoid enemy infiltration if the exploding ants fail their mission.

ENEMIES:

Weaver ants that spray acid.

USE EXTREME CAUTION:

DO NOT APPROACH IF THEY RAISE THEIR RUMP IN WARNING!

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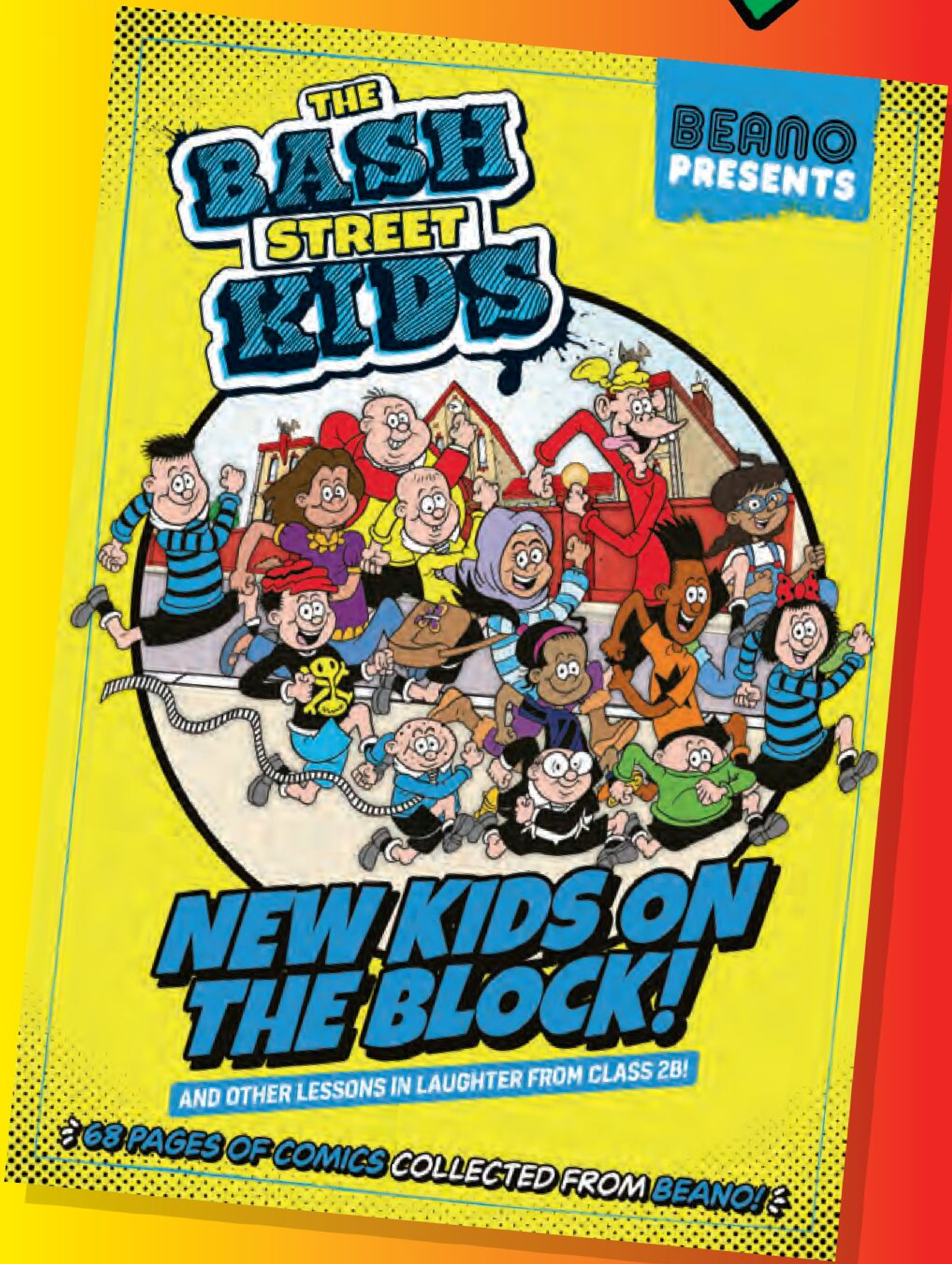
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BEWARE!
250
BRILLIANT BEASTS INSIDE!

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FIND OUT WHAT YOUR ANIMAL SUPERPOWER IS AND IF YOU'RE A BIRDBRAIN WITH OUR BAFFLING PUZZLES!